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Lionel Messi (38) will captain Argentina at Fifa World Cup, coach Lionel Scaloni announces as he unveils his 26-man squad. It will be a record-breaking 6th tournament for the superstar, P 16

US prez **Donald Trump says he will make a final decision soon over a deal with Iran** to extend their ceasefire that would need to include opening the Strait of Hormuz and dismantling Tehran's capacity to make a nuclear weapon, PAGE OPP

Nato accuses Moscow of reckless behaviour, pledges to 'defend allied territory' after **Romania says Russian drone crashed into an apartment block**. Putin suggests drone could be Ukrainian, PAGE OPP

In bid to ensure no US first strike on China's N-arsenal reliably knocks out its ability to hit back, satellite images show **Beijing is building launch pads near isolated nuclear silos** that hold PLA's longest-range missiles, PAGE OPP

CLP set to formally elect DKS today, swearing-in next week

State Poised For First Leadership Swap In 17 Years

Manu Aiyappa Kanathanda & Sandeep Moudgal | TNN

Bengaluru: The Congress Legislature Party (CLP) will meet in Bengaluru Saturday evening to formally elect deputy CM DK Shivakumar as its new leader after governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot formally accepted CM Siddaramaiah's resignation. If all goes according to plan, Shivakumar will replace Siddaramaiah, marking Karnataka's first leadership handover in 17 years.

▶ FULL COVERAGE: PAGE 2

AICC general secretaries KC Venugopal and RS Surjewala will attend the CLP meeting at the Vidhana Soudha, where members are expected to first place on record their appreciation for Siddaramaiah's tenure before electing Shivakumar as leader. After the formal election, Shivakumar is expected to submit the CLP resolution to the governor at Lok Bhavan and stake claim to form the new cabinet.

The swearing-in date is expected to be finalised based on the availability of senior Congress leaders and astrological consultations. Shivakumar is said to have consulted family astrologer BS Dwarakanath, who suggested Sunday, Monday and Friday as auspicious dates for the ceremony. Sources said Shivakumar is keen to have Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra present at the oath-taking ceremony and will take a final call after consulting them. Shivakumar shares a close rapport with Priyanka, and she had reportedly backed the CM change.

▶ Cabinet expansion, P 4

DKS with Rahul Gandhi in Delhi on Friday

> Let us all move forward together for the progress of Karnataka... God does not give boons or curses. He only gives opportunities. What truly matters is what we make of those opportunities — DK SHIVAKUMAR

5-10 MINISTERS MAY TAKE OATH TOO

- A day after resigning as CM, **Siddaramaiah meets Sonia Gandhi & Rahul in Delhi,** reportedly seeks adequate **cabinet representation for his loyalists** and **revival of coordination committee**. He was accompanied by his son Yathindra
- The caretaker CM calls for **CLP meeting, which will be held today at Conference Hall of Vidhana Soudha at 4pm**
- AICC general secretaries KC Venugopal & RS Surjewala will also attend the meeting
- After formal election, **DK Shivakumar likely to submit CLP resolution to governor** at Lok Bhavan and stake claim to form new cabinet
- **Satish Jarkiholi frontrunner for Karnataka Congress chief post**. Sources say **5-10 ministers likely to take oath** along with Shivakumar

5 KEY CHALLENGES FOR DKS: Balancing caste equation and regional & factional demands in **cabinet formation**, **retaining Ahinda support** base, **sustaining costly guarantee schemes** without straining the state exchequer, expanding **development beyond B'luru** while addressing **farmers' concerns**, and navigating the politically sensitive **Mekedatu project** and **Cauvery river disputes with Tamil Nadu** | P 2

Fresh tussle over deputy CM posts, cabinet berths & state Cong chief

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Bengaluru: With the leadership tussle settled and D K Shivakumar expected to assume office as the new CM, the Congress high command has now turned its attention to the more challenging task of cabinet formation and selecting a new Congress president amid growing pressure from senior leaders and caste groups demanding representation.

The prospect of appointing multiple deputy CMs and reallocating key portfolios has intensified lobbying within the party ahead of the swearing-in ceremony, likely to take place on Monday. The cabinet can have a maximum of 34 members, including the CM.

Senior Dalit functionaries G Parameshwara, K H Muniyappa and Priyank Kharge, along with Lingayat heavyweights M B Patil and Eshwar Khandre, are among those pushing for deputy CM posts and key portfolios in the new dispensation. Party sources said nearly 15 ministers from Siddaramaiah's outgoing cabinet may be retained.

Initially, the leadership had considered appointing up to four deputy CMs to maintain social and regional balance. However, sources said the party is now inclined to limit the number to one or two because of growing competition for the posts.

If Shivakumar is CM, he is expected to retain Bengaluru development portfolio and keep the finance portfolio which was held by Siddaramaiah.

However, home minister G Parameshwara is said to be lobbying strongly for the finance portfolio, while K H Muniyappa and H K Patil are eyeing the water resources department. Industries minister M B Patil is also trying to retain his portfolio, arguing that a change could disrupt the state's investment flow.

▶ Lingayat as KPCC chief? P 2

For DKS, it is all written in the stars

For D K Shivakumar, astrology is less superstition and more a blend of science and mathematics. The Congress heavyweight has openly acknowledged his faith in astrologers. It was reportedly on an astrologer's advice that he staged a dramatic confrontation at the residence of his mentor, SM Krishna, after being denied a cabinet berth. The move eventually paid off. P 2

60% chance of deficient monsoon as IMD downgrades rain forecast

Rainfall Pegged At 90% Amid El Niño Shadow

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New Delhi: In what may be a double whammy for India, IMD on Friday confirmed its forecast of 'below normal' monsoon rainfall this year while further downgrading extent of rains during the June-Sept season, with a high probability of 'deficient' rainfall — a drought-year season — amid the country already facing energy disruptions due to the West Asia crisis.

Rainfall during the season is likely to be 90% of long period average (LPA), revised from 92% predicted in April, with a 60% chance of 'deficient' rainfall (less than 90% of LPA), according to IMD, a situation that may not just impact the farm sector but also negatively affect water reservoirs, groundwater recharge and hydro-power potential, triggering crises at multiple levels.

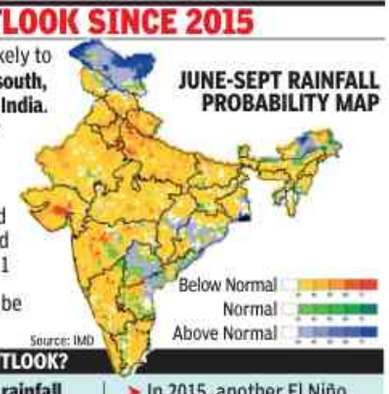
IMD attributed the downgrade to strong El Niño conditions — a climatic phenomena of warming of ocean waters in central and eastern equatorial Pacific — which is invariably associated with a harsh summer and weak monsoon.

IMD, accordingly, also indicated a hot June in the country, predicting 'above normal' heatwave days over many parts of UP, Haryana, Punjab, Bihar, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and AP and parts of Maharashtra, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu in June. Rajasthan and Jharkhand may, however, experience 'below normal' heat wave days during the month.

▶ Brace for El Nino, P 18

LOWEST OUTLOOK SINCE 2015

- June-Sept rains likely to be **below normal in south, central & northwest India.** Outlook bleakest for northwest at <92%
- **Monsoon onset** over Kerala expected to be **delayed** beyond normal date of June 1
- **June** predicted to be **hotter than normal**



HOW BAD IS THE OUTLOOK?

- This is the **lowest rainfall forecast by IMD** in its updated monsoon outlook (released in May-June) **in 11 years**
- In 2015, another El Niño year, IMD had **predicted 'deficient' monsoon at 88%** of LPA. Actual rainfall was **86%**

Drought fear chills markets, sensex slides 1,100 points

Reports that India is expected to see its driest monsoon in over a decade spooked investors on Dalal Street. In late trades on Friday, sensex fell sharply to close nearly 1,100 points (1.4%) lower at 74,776 points. The slide was led by HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank and Reliance Industries.

▶ RBI: Eco outlook intact, but conditions apply, P 15
▶ Weak monsoon likely to hit consumption, P 15

The markets' adverse reaction came despite an easing of crude oil prices — contrary to the trend since West Asia war started of sensex mirroring oil fortunes. Analysts said the prospect of deficient rain had heightened fears of elevated food inflation in the coming months, even though the downside risk appeared to be partially mitigated by a moderation in crude oil prices and bond yields. TNN

SC to HCs: Give judgment within three months of reserving verdict

New Delhi: In a bid to curb the "reserve and forget" habit among some high court judges, SC Friday mandated a three month deadline for HCs to pronounce their verdicts, while also laying down that orders in bail cases must be passed immediately.

After coming across a series of appeals against convictions in criminal cases languishing indefinitely, a bench of CJI Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi said HCs must display extra promptitude in deciding matters concerning personal liberty, regular and anticipatory bail. CJI Kant said, "Bail applications should be heard, and the order should preferably be pronounced and uploaded the same day. If it is reserved, it should be pronounced the next day and uploaded to the website." TNN

▶ Must reach at once, P 7

Apex court allows Vinesh to participate in Asiad trials today

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New Delhi: Supreme Court on Friday allowed grappler **Vinesh Phogat** to take part in the 2026 Asian Games selection trials, while strongly disapproving of Delhi high court's handling of the case, but questioned the decorated wrestler for not making herself available for mandatory doping test.

Noting that any delay in deciding the issue would have derailed Phogat's chance to take part in Saturday's trials and taking into consideration her contribution to sports by representing the country at multiple international platforms, SC allowed her to go for the trials despite objections raised by Wrestling Federation of India.

It said Phogat was not an ordinary athlete as she has represented India in various events, including in three Olympics, and made the nation proud, but in the same breath made it clear that rules had to be followed by all.

▶ SC frowns at HC, P 16

WFI says wrestler cleared only for 50kg

WFI will allow Vinesh to compete only in the women's 50kg in the trials since she has competed in that category in her last few international events. WFI sources said officials waited for confirmation on her preferred weight division but did not get word till late Friday evening. It has been learnt that the wrestler has been preparing to compete in 53kg class. TNN

No HC relief for CJP on blocked X a/c, matter with govt panel

New Delhi: Declining any interim relief to the outfit that calls itself Cockroach Janta Party, Delhi HC on Friday sent its plea seeking unblocking of its X account to a review committee of the govt under the IT Rules to examine the issue and take a decision before July 7, **reports Abhinav Garg**.

Justice Purushaindra K Kaurav refused conditional relief, as done in earlier cases where the account is restored but offending tweets remain blocked. "The defence in those cases was that there were some tweets found to be offending. In this case, the entire activity per se perhaps was slightly offending," he remarked.

Justice Kaurav permitted CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke to appear virtually before the committee.

▶ 'Pure satire', P 7

Aiming for 25th Slam title, Djoker loses to teenager

Novak Djokovic's latest quest for a record 25th Grand Slam was ended by Brazilian Joao Fonseca (19) in the third round of the French Open on Friday. The 39-year-old Serb — a three-time champion at Roland Garros — lost 4-6, 4-6, 6-3, 7-5, 7-5 as temperatures reached 33°C. P 16

No toppers from state in ComedK

Not a single student from Karnataka figured in the top 10 of the ComedK undergraduate entrance exam, results of which were announced on Friday. Five of the top six ranks were secured by students from Jharkhand, while rank 3 went to a candidate from Uttarakhand. P 4

15 dead in Pune hooch tragedy

At least 15 have died in Pune and Pimpri Chinchwad after allegedly consuming spurious liquor. Nine people have been arrested so far for allegedly mixing methanol into country-made alcohol, said police. P 5

Trucker ferrying food killed in Manipur

A truck driver from Bengal was killed on Friday in Manipur after unidentified gunmen opened fire on a convoy ferrying food supplies. The convoy had resumed journey following a blockade by protesters. P 18

AAP wins big in Punjab civic polls

Punjab's governing AAP won over 950 (50%) wards as results for municipal elections came in Friday. Of the eight municipal corporations that went to the polls Tuesday, AAP won five. Congress was a distant second. P 5

CBSE plans to upload scanned answer sheets from 2027

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: CBSE is planning to directly provide scanned answer sheets to Class XII students through DigiLocker from 2027 along with the marksheets.

This was stated by a senior official of the ministry of education on Friday, even as the national education board's On Screen Marking (OSM) has come under scrutiny amid complaints of answer-sheet mix-ups, portal glitches, payment failures and overcharging of application fees.

With this, students will be able to view their papers online before applying for verification or re-evaluation.

Currently, the post-result process takes place in two stages. In the first, students apply online to obtain scanned copies of their evaluated answer sheets. In the second stage, they can either seek verification of marks or apply for re-evaluation of specific answers.

▶ Visibility issues, P 7

Responsibility has to be fixed for paper leak: Top court on NEET

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New Delhi: Noting that medical entrance exam NEET-UG has been marred by mismanagement in recent years, Supreme Court on Friday said responsibility has to be fixed on a certain person or authority in case of paper leak which happened this year. The Centre agreed, saying the buck must stop somewhere.

The top court said a paper leak is a very traumatic experience for students and parents, who devote a whole year for preparation.

A bench of Justices P S Narasimha and Alok Aradhe said National Testing Agency was facing a problem of adhocism and it should learn from Union Public Service Commission which has been conducting various exams smoothly over the years.

It issued notice to the Centre, seeking its response on strengthening the present system of conducting the exam, and making NEET fool-proof.

"The real problem won't stop till actual accountability arises. Not in terms of so-and-so will be liable, it will be effective when we know which individual shoulders the responsibility. Unless you identify the specific duty-bearers, it will be difficult," the bench said. It said the problem is that most institutions are run on adhocism and its is a phenomenon that is everywhere in the country.

"It is very traumatic if this is happening. We cannot disappoint our students," it said.

▶ Largely yielded, P 8

Hyd firm in CBSE row has a Nagpur trail

COEMPT Edu Teck Pvt Ltd, the Hyderabad-based company at the centre of the CBSE on-screen marking controversy, is facing allegations of marksheet blunders, exam glitches and fake documentation at Nagpur University, where around 3.2 lakh students have been affected since the firm took over exam operations in 2025-26. P 13

BEZOS' MOON ROCKET EXPLODES

AP

New Glenn, a 98-metre rocket made by Jeff Bezos-owned Blue Origin, exploded during a test firing Thursday night, creating a giant orange fireball around the Cape Canaveral launchpad in Florida. Blue Origin plans to use New Glenn rocket to launch landers to the moon | PG OPP

Driver killed after wall crashes on auto in B'luru

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Heavy rain accompanied by strong winds on Friday evening turned fatal for an autorickshaw driver after a compound wall of a private club collapsed on his vehicle in west Bengaluru.

According to the preliminary investigation by Vijayanagar police, Shivaboraiah, a resident of Gangondanahalli, had parked his autorickshaw by the roadside near Vijayanagar Club in Hampinagar when the incident occurred around 7.40pm. Amid heavy rain, the club's compound wall, estimated to be seven to eight feet high, suddenly collapsed.

The massive wall reportedly fell on the parked auto, trapping Shivaboraiah inside. He was crushed between the mangled vehicle and the debris, and died on the spot.

Shocked bystanders immediately alerted police, fire department, and emergency services personnel. Rescue teams rushed to the scene and began clearing the debris, but Shivaboraiah was already dead.

A senior police officer said the victim's family had been informed. A case will be registered based on the complaint filed by the family. Investigation is under way to ascertain what caused the wall to collapse. This is the second wall collapse incident being reported in the city in the last one month.

▶ Thunderstorms paralyse parts of Bengaluru again, P 3

IPL captaincy churn: Pant steps down, Pandya may be on way out

Arani Basu & Gaurav Gupta

IPL-2026 isn't over yet, but heads have already begun to roll at franchises that fared disastrously this year. On Friday, Rishabh Pant stepped down as captain of Lucknow Super Giants, which finished at the bottom of the table. Meanwhile, Hardik Pandya's tumultuous tenure as Mumbai Indians skipper is set to come to an end after the five-time champs finished second-last.

▶ GT vs RCB in IPL final, P 17

In fact, the all-rounder wants to leave MI and could be traded to another franchise when the trading window opens, according to a reliable source. Delhi Capitals and Kolkata Knight Riders are potential destinations for him, though other franchises could also be interested.

LSG had made Pant captain after bidding Rs 27 crore for him, making him the most expensive player in IPL history. On the other hand, MI stirred a controversy when they brought Hardik back to their fold from Gujarat Titans and named him captain, replacing Rohit Sharma, then India's captain across all three formats.

AFP/Sunil Kumar

MI may trade Hardik Pandya (left) to another franchise; Rishabh Pant asked to be relieved of captaincy, according to LSG's management

▶ Hardik exit soon? P 17

WB sets up 11 holding centres in one week

Kolkata: The number of holding centres set up across Bengal to house suspected Bangladeshi infiltrators has increased to 11 within a week as the new BJP govt intensifies a statewide crackdown on undocumented cross-border movement, **report Sanjib Chakraborty, Ashis Poddar** and **Sukumar Mahato**. Around 386 such illegal immigrants have been detained at the centres. The highest concentration is in Basirhat police district in North 24 Parganas, where three new facilities became operational last Tuesday.

▶ Got PAN, Aadhaar, P 5

66% of births in 2024 were first-borns: Report

New Delhi: Nearly two-thirds of all live births in India — 66.4% — were first-born children, while the fourth child and births thereafter dwindled to barely 3.5%, shows the 2024 Sample Registration System Statistical Report.

On birth spacing, a critical factor for maternal health and child development, the data shows that 53.5% of second or later births occurred 36 months or later after the previous birth, **reports Ambika Pandit**.

As per the 2024 data, nearly 23% births were second-order births, a terminology used to refer to second child, and 7.3% were third-order births. In terms of urban and rural trends, data show that 65.4% live births were first-order births in rural India and this percentage was 69% for urban areas.

Underage marriage sees gradual decline

Among women in 20-24 age group surveyed, 20.1% were married before 18 years, the legal age of marriage for women, shows data released as part of the National Family Health Survey-6 (2023-24). It shows a three percentage points decline compared to 2019-21 health survey. P 18

Fuel price hikes to be passed on, says IndiGo

New Delhi: The hike in jet fuel prices will be passed on to both domestic and international passengers as increased airfares, IndiGo said Friday after flying into the red with a loss of Rs 2,537 crore in the fourth quarter of the 2026 fiscal, compared to a profit of Rs 3,067 crore in the same period last year.

While fuel prices for international flights have doubled since pre-war days, for domestic flights, the price hike has so far remained capped. If the cap is lifted even marginally next week, domestic flights — with their schedule truncated — will cost more.

▶ Stayed resilient, P 7

Bangalore Times

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DIFFICULT TRANSITION Governance Slows As Uncertainty Grips State Bureaucracy | Will Vokkaligas Now Rally Around Shivakumar?

From finances & Mekedatu to Ahinda, new CM has many challenges ahead

With DK Shivakumar expected to take over the reins, the Congress govt in Karnataka faces a politically crucial transition phase. Challenges on several fronts—political, administrative, and financial—awaits the new administration. These range from balancing regional and caste equations in the new cabinet to sustaining the guarantee schemes amid fiscal pressure and negotiating the politically sensitive Mekedatu reservoir project. The new CM will have his work cut out, analyses **Manu Aiyappa Kanathanda**

CABINET FORMATION

Even before formally taking charge, Shivakumar faces the big challenge of selecting a council of ministers. Congress brass is certain to face competing demands from senior legislators representing dominant caste groups, regions, and factions within the party. With former CM Siddaramaiah loyalists already seeking continuity and Shivakumar's camp expecting greater representation, the process of portfolio allocation could become tricky. The possibility of appointing multiple deputy CMs has only added another layer of complexity. Shivakumar will have to strike a careful balance as any perception of regional or caste imbalance could trigger disgruntlement.

KEEPING AHINDA INTACT

One of the biggest political challenges Shivakumar faces is retaining the Ahinda support base painstakingly cultivated by Siddaramaiah. The social coalition of minorities, backward classes, and Dalits, played a major role in Congress returning to office in 2023 and remains central to the party's electoral strategy. While Shivakumar enjoys strong support among the Vokkaliga community and organisational control within the party, political analysts say he must reassure Ahinda communities that their interests will continue to be protected. Even the slightest of slights could provide an opening for opposition BJP-JD(S) to regain lost ground. Continuing welfare schemes targeted at economically weaker sections will, therefore, be politically imperative. Shivakumar's ability to work in coordination with Siddaramaiah, who has vowed to stay active in state politics, could determine whether Congress returns to the helm in 2028.

GUARANTEES vs TREASURY

Managing state finances while continuing Congress' flagship guarantee schemes is expected to be a tightrope walk. The govt is already spending about Rs 51,000 crore annually on the five schemes — Gruha Lakshmi, Shakthi, Anna Bhagya, Yuva Nidhi, and Gruha Jyothi. While the schemes have, largely, been well received, economists and the opposition have repeatedly raised concerns over growing fiscal pressure and the impact on capital expenditure. Revenue mobilisation, rising subsidy commitments, and borrowing limits will remain key concerns, but scaling back welfare schemes may carry political risks. Improving tax collections, attracting investments, and prioritising expenditure should be the focus.

ANI

LEARNING THE ROPES: DK Shivakumar, who will likely be picked as the next CM, in New Delhi with AICC general secretary KC Venugopal on Friday

BEYOND BENGALURU

Expanding development beyond Bengaluru and addressing agrarian concerns is another key area that requires focus. While Bengaluru continues to dominate investment, infrastructure, and administrative attention, representatives from northern and rural Karnataka have consistently demanded more attention on these regions. Farmers across several districts continue to face issues related to drought, irrigation shortages, crop losses, and fluctuating market prices. Congress legislators from rural belts are expected to push the new govt to prioritise irrigation projects, rural roads, drinking water supply, and agricultural support measures. Balancing Bengaluru's urban infrastructure demands with rural development expectations will require careful resource allocation. Shivakumar's administration will be judged not only by Bengaluru's growth but also by whether development reaches smaller towns.

MEKEDATU AND CAUVERY RIVER WATER SHARING DISPUTES

The festering Mekedatu balancing reservoir project and broader Cauvery river conflict are expected to emerge as sensitive political challenges. Having strongly advocated the Mekedatu project by undertaking a padayatra from Kanakapura to Bengaluru ahead of the 2023 elections, Shivakumar, as CM, would face immense pressure to push the project forward. Karnataka insists the project is essential to meet Bengaluru's drinking water needs, while neighbouring Tamil Nadu has consistently opposed it, citing concerns over their share of Cauvery river water. C Joseph Vijay, Tamil Nadu's new CM, has already rattled sabres on the issue. How Shivakumar handles water-sharing tensions could become one of the defining tests of his tenure and leadership skills.

ANI

WELL DONE, OLD FRIEND! Siddaramaiah, who resigned as chief minister, is greeted by party boss Rahul Gandhi in New Delhi on Friday

With Siddaramaiah's exit, state stares at leadership vacuum

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Bengaluru: Karnataka is on the brink of one of its biggest political transitions in decades, with the state preparing for a future beyond Siddaramaiah, HD Deve Gowda and BS Yediyurappa — three representatives who shaped state politics for over two decades.

The transition is no longer only about who becomes the next CM. Political observers say the larger question is who will command the emotional trust and statewide acceptance once enjoyed by these towering functionaries. Analysts believe the state is now facing the long-term consequences of personality-driven, caste-centric and family-oriented politics, which failed to create an equally powerful second line of leadership.

The foundations for this shift were laid nearly 25 years ago after the Janata Parivar split into JD(S) and JD(U). "The split gradually converted Karnataka's politics into a direct contest between dominant social blocs, largely Vokkaligas and Lingayats," said Venkatesh Thogarighatta, political analyst and consultant.

The divide deepened in 2006 when HD Kumaraswamy refused to transfer authority to Yediyurappa leading to the collapse of the BJP-JD(S) govt. "The incident consolidated Lingayats behind Yediyurappa while strengthening Vokkaligas around the Gowda family. Thereafter, politics increasingly revolved around community identity rather than ideology," Venkatesh said.

However, Siddaramaiah built a parallel socio-political coalition through Ahinda — minorities, backward classes and Dalits. Over time, he transformed backward caste identity into a statewide political movement and emerged as Karnataka's most influential Kuruba leader. He too eventually evolved beyond ideology and became a political identity for backward classes, much like former chief minister D Devaraj Urs in an earlier era.

However, Karnataka's political transition has also exposed the absence of equally influential successors within these communities. Among backward classes, functionaries like KS Eshwarappa and H Vishwanath never evolved into statewide mobilisers.

Lingayats and Vokkaligas too face a similar gap. After Yediyurappa stepped away from electoral politics, no Lingayat has demonstrated comparable emotional connect and organisational authority.

Within the Vokkaliga community too, the political space continues to be shaped by the legacy of Gowda and JD(S), despite KPCC president DK Shivakumar steadily expanding his influence.

"If Shivakumar fulfils the aspirations of the community which JD(S) failed to do in the past two decades, Vokkaligas may rally around him for years," Venkatesh said.

Observers argue seniors also failed to nurture successors within their own communities. "While Gowda steadily drifted away from his ideological roots and transformed JD(S) into a family-centric party, Yediyurappa openly encouraged dynastic politics by passing the baton to his son BY Vijayendra. Siddaramaiah too failed to nurture a credible second line of leadership within Ahinda communities," said Prof Ravindra Reshme, political observer.

Reshme said the growing culture of "parivarvad" gradually weakened the internal leadership pipeline across parties and communities and Karnataka may now enter an extended political phase dominated by coalition-building, caste arithmetic, welfare populism and factional negotiations.

Bureaucracy awaits new ministers, braces for reset

Pics: Syed Asif

GRAND CEREMONY: With the swearing-in likely on the iconic steps of Vidhana Soudha, hectic preparations were in progress Friday. (Left) Staff put away old namesplates

Sandeep.Moudgal @timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: With Siddaramaiah and his cabinet set to make way for a new council of ministers, uncertainty has gripped the state bureaucracy.

Although Congress enjoys a comfortable majority in the assembly, officials across departments are preparing for possible changes in priorities, administrative style and policy direction once a new chief minister and ministers take charge. For many bureaucrats, Siddaramaiah's resignation has at least ended months of political uncertainty that had slowed decision making within the govt.

"Now, we will have to buckle up and function at full scale to impress the new political bosses," said a senior bureaucrat.

Still, officials expect the transition to temporarily slow governance as incoming ministers review ongoing schemes and departmental projects before taking fresh decisions.

"While we do not expect any immediate changes and officials will continue day-to-day work, new ministers will eventually shape the direction of each department," said CS Shadakshari, president, Karnataka State Government Employees Association. The association believes it could take at least a month for new ministers to settle in and establish a working style.

Should DK Shivakumar be sworn in as CM, Tushar Giri Nath, a 1993 batch IAS officer, could be appointed additional chief secretary to the CM. There won't be a change in Karnataka chief secretary as incumbent Shalini Rajneesh is scheduled to complete her tenure and superannuate on June 30 next year.

Basavaraj Rayareddi, former economic adviser to the CM said: "We do expect a period of stagnation amid the state's financial concerns, but the party will push ahead with new faces and continue governance."

For many officials and staff, the political reshuffle is closely tied to their own professional future.

Changes in portfolios and appointments at the top often have a direct impact on administrative hierarchies and departmental influence.

"In the legislative assembly and council, the speaker and chairman have the final say in careers of officials," said a secretariat official. "If the current speaker joins the cabinet and a new speaker is elected, the existing cadre may face upheavals. The same applies to other departments where individual considerations strongly influence officials. We will have to wait and see how things unfold."

Former Congress minister Venkataramanappa dies at 80

Former minister **Venkataramanappa** died following a heart attack at a private hospital in Bengaluru early Friday. He was 80. Venkataramanappa was being treated for age-related ailments. A prominent Congress functionary from Tumakuru district, Venkataramanappa served as MLA four times and held ministerial portfolios twice during his political career. Former home minister G Parameshwara visited the hospital and paid his last respects. "He had done commendable work during his tenure as minister. Even after his son Venkatesh became MLA from Pavagada, people continued to affectionately refer to Venkataramanappa as MLA. He was immensely popular in the constituency and was also close to me. His demise is an irreparable loss to Congress party," Parameshwara said.

Siddaramaiah told me to quell communal forces: Ex-DC

Sasikanth Senthil, IAS officer and now Congress MP from Thiruvallur, recalled his first meeting with former CM Siddaramaiah while being transferred to Dakshina Kannada as the new DC. Senthil revealed that just before he was to leave for Mangaluru to take charge, he was called into Siddaramaiah's office and was given just one diktat: At no cost should there be a communal flare up. He said 15 days later when Mangaluru erupted with two communal murders, Siddaramaiah called him again and said: "DC, do what is required. Take anyone into custody, even our party people. Don't bother. But stop this within a day." Senthil said he knew the contrast too: Under a different dispensation, in a similar crisis, he was told to do nothing and let things fester. "Siddaramaiahji was never that kind of leader," he said.

DKS' elevation could open fresh battle with JD(S)

Santoshkumar.B@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Congress party's likely decision to install DK Shivakumar as the new chief minister is expected to intensify its political battle with JD(S) in the Old Mysuru region, home to the politically influential Vokkaliga community that has traditionally backed JD(S) and the HD Deve Gowda family.

Political observers and community representatives say a significant section of Vokkaligas voted for Congress in 2023 believing Shivakumar would become CM if the party formed the govt. Siddaramaiah's appointment for a second term reportedly disappointed sections of the community.

Since then, the Vokkaligara Sangha has constantly lobbied Congress' high command for a switch, arguing that the community backed Congress because of Shivakumar's leadership.

B Kenchappa Gowda, executive committee member and former president, Vokkaligara Sangha, said Shivakumar further strengthened his influence within the community and among Vokkaliga organisations after becoming deputy CM.

Another executive committee member said dissatisfaction over Shivakumar not being made CM was among the factors behind Congress' poor performance in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections in the region. "Vokkaliga support will consolidate behind Congress in the 2028 assembly elections if he is made CM," one representative said.

C Prasanna Kumar, former president, Devanahalli Block Congress Committee, said voters of the community traditionally supported JD(S) because of former PM Gowda and his son HD Kumaraswamy. But the political landscape changed after Shivakumar emerged as a powerful Congress functionary, Kumar said.

"If he's elevated, the party will go into the 2028 assembly elections under his leadership. The Vokkaliga community will support him again," Kumar said.

Kumar also argued that the JD(S)-BJP alliance could weaken the regional party's traditional support base because Kumaraswamy is unlikely to be projected as the NDA's chief ministerial face. He said the alliance could also alienate sections of Muslim voters.

File photo

COMPETITORS: With his rise, DK Shivakumar has gradually eaten into votes which HD Kumaraswamy and JD(S) had once commanded in the Vokkaliga-dominated Old Mysuru region

JD(S) not daunted

But JD(S) dismissed suggestions that Shivakumar as CM would hurt the party's prospects. Sudhakar S Shetty, JD(S) national spokesperson, said the party continued to enjoy strong support, pointing out that voters were familiar with Kumaraswamy's administration.

"In 2023, Shivakumar had appealed to people to give him an opportunity to serve as CM, and they supported him. He cannot seek sympathy votes again in 2028," Shetty said.

He also argued that Shivakumar's two-year tenure would be too short to ensure major changes to the state's development and claimed there were several chief ministerial aspirants in Congress, including Satish Jarkiholi and HC Mahadevappa, reducing the possibility of Shivakumar continuing after 2028.

Shetty said his elevation would benefit JD(S) more than Congress. "We are confident of winning at least 40 seats in this region alone in 2028," he said.

Written in the stars: The astrology behind Shivakumar's rise

ManuAiyappa.Kanathanda @timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Very few politicians in the state have embraced astrology as openly as Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president DK Shivakumar. For the Congress strongman, celestial calculations have long gone beyond personal belief; it has shaped political decisions and moments of confrontation.

From choosing auspicious dates to consulting spiritual gurus before major political moves, Shivakumar has repeatedly acknowledged that astrology has played a defining role in his political journey. "It is more science and mathematics," Shivakumar once said in an interview.

While he has consulted over a dozen astrologers during his rise to the helm, at the centre of this coterie has been Bellur Dwarakanath, known better as Rajguru Dwarakanath Guruji. The Kanakapura strongman has often credited Dwarakanath, his long-time spiritual adviser, with accurately predicting several major turns in his career, including ministerial positions, electoral setbacks and his eventual rise as KPCC president.

Now, associates close to Shivakumar say Dwarakanath had predicted years ago that he would eventually become chief minister in mid-2026 — a forecast that has only strengthened Shivakumar's faith in the 'science' of the stars.

File photo of DK Shivakumar

While condoling the demise of former CM SM Krishna, his political mentor, during a speech in the assembly, Shivakumar dramatically revealed the extent of Dwarakanath's influence on him. Recalling events of 1998, Shivakumar narrated how astrology intervened at a critical moment when he was denied a cabinet berth in Krishna's govt.

"CM-designate Krishna and I prepared the list of ministers, which included several senior legislators and a few like me and TB Jayachandra," Shivakumar had said. "But when the final list was approved by the party high command the night before the swearing-in, neither my name nor Jayachandra's was there."

Disturbed by the omission, he turned to Dwarakanath late that night for guidance. "He told me, 'If you want to become minister, just kick the door'," Shivakumar recalled.

What followed has since become part of political folklore. "I followed his advice and at around 2am, I went and kicked the doors of my mentor Krishna demanding my right to be inducted," Shivakumar had said. "The list without my name had already gone to the governor, but I told Krishna he could not take oath as CM without me in the cabinet."

Shivakumar revealed Krishna's family attempted to calm him down. "Mrs Krishna and his daughter tried to convince me saying my stars were not aligned and I should wait for my turn. But I paid no heed. That is how I became a minister," he had said.

That incident only embellished Shivakumar's reliance on astrology. Associates say consultations with astrologers, temple visits, special rituals and homas have remained a constant feature of his career. Among the figures he reveres deeply is Kaivara Tatayya, also known as Yogi Narayana, the 18th century saint from Chikkaballapur. He has frequently visited the Kaivara Yogi Narayana Ashrama during politically significant phases and personal milestones, seeking blessings.

Lingayat as KPCC chief?

▸ Continued from page 1

A meeting involving Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and AICC general secretary KC Venugopal was held in Delhi Friday to discuss cabinet picks and Rajya Sabha polls. The high command is said to be looking at lists submitted by Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar.

Another major challenge is the appointment of a new KPCC chief. Senior MLA Satish Jarkiholi had emerged the frontrunner but sources say he is seeking a dual role similar to Shivakumar's earlier arrangement as deputy CM and KPCC president. This has reportedly led to a rethink.

Discussions are now focused on appointing either a Dalit or Lingayat as KPCC chief. Siddaramaiah's son Yathindra, an MLC, may be assigned a plum portfolio, while Muslim leaders, UT Khader, BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan, NA Haris and Saleem Ahmed are being considered for portfolios. If Khader is made minister, HK Patil may be made speaker.

Meanwhile, a delegation from Kolar met Kharge to press for three ministerial berths for the district. Lingayat MLAs, too, have demanded stronger representation. MLA Ashok Pattan hinted the new cabinet may have at least 20 newcomers.

If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything. - Mark Twain

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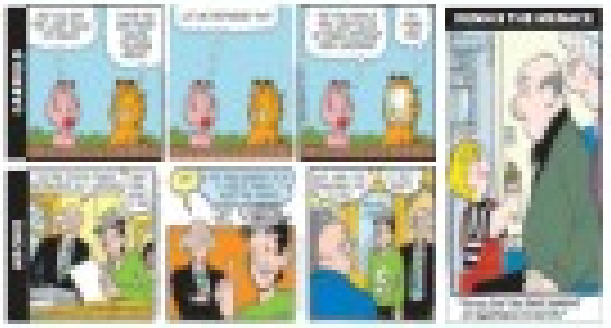

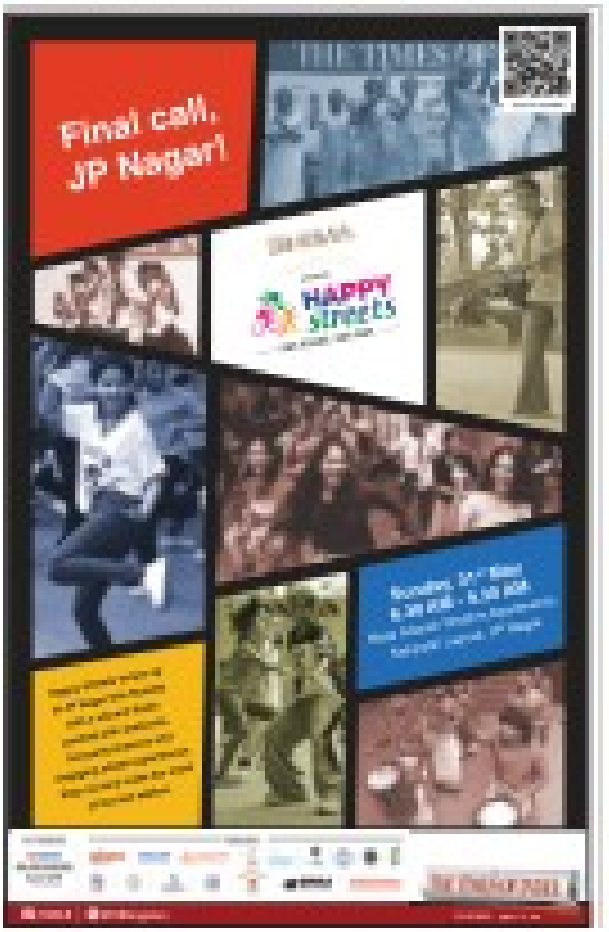

Why are B'luru motorists cursing SILK BOARD JUNCTION AGAIN?

When It Rains, Part Of Road Turns Dirty Pool

Suchith.Kidiyoor
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Pics: TOI

LEFTOVERS: Waterlogging has returned to Silk Board Jn, triggering massive traffic snarls and exposing persistent drainage problems

Bengaluru: For motorists and pedestrians, rain at Silk Board Junction has once again become a warning sign to brace for chaos. Just weeks after the much-hyped inauguration of the double-decker flyover promised smoother travel along the city's tech corridor, commuters are back to cursing the junction, this time over severe waterlogging that continues to cripple traffic every time it pours.

On Friday evening, heavy rain turned the stretch near Silk Board Metro station into a muddy pool, forcing vehicles to crawl through flooded roads during peak-hour traffic. A similar scene unfolded Thursday as well, leaving frustrated commuters stranded in bumper-to-bumper congestion.

The story has become painfully familiar for Bengalureans as the problem is not new. Last May, pre-monsoon showers submerged the key junction and nearby roads, with floodwater even entering Silk Board Metro station. At the time, BBMP (now GBA) officials blamed Namma Metro construction work and blocked storm-water drains for disrupting the natural flow of rainwater. Authorities had promised residents that clogged drains would be cleared and flooding controlled before the next monsoon. A year later, commuters say little has changed. On Thursday evening, just 30 minutes of heavy rain was enough to throw traffic completely out of gear at Silk Board Junction, Roopena Agrahara, Bommanahalli and surrounding stretches of the national highway. Vehicles moved at a snail's pace for hours.

"Waterlogging at Silk Board has become routine whenever the city gets heavy rain in the evening," said a senior traffic police officer. "Water started receding around 10.30pm, but traffic congestion continued till almost midnight."

> After getting down at the Metro station, I walk nearly 300 metres to reach the BMTC bus stand. The stretch is both a safety and health hazard. There is absolutely no space for pedestrians to walk. After desilting works, waste has been dumped on the roadside and when it rains, it spreads all over the place
>
> **Shubashree** | PASSENGER

Problems & solutions

According to officials, Silk Board receives rainwater flowing from nearly 20 lakes, including Madiwala, and the existing stormwater drain network is unable to handle the volume during intense rain. To address this, GBA has begun work to expand the drain capacity from 1.5m to 3.5m using steel girders. The project started in April and officials hope to complete it by June-end.

SV Rajesh, chief engineer of GBA's project implementation unit, said tonnes of garbage choking stormwater drains have made the flooding problem worse. "Over 40 tonnes of waste, including plastic bottles, clothes and garbage, have been removed from drains near Silk Board," he added.

Officials are constructing an L-shaped culvert to divert water towards HSR Layout side in an attempt to prevent future flooding. However, the ongoing work has led to road closures and traffic diversions, adding to commuter frustration.

According to Bengaluru South City Corporation officials, infrastructure projects over the years have disrupted the natural drainage pattern around Silk Board. They said the earlier construction of NHAI flyover altered the water flow, while Metro works later and massive pillars built for double-decker flyover further obstructed drainage channels around the junction.

Pedestrians risk lives

The stormwater drain works have turned into a safety hazard for pedestrians using the busy junction to access the Yellow Line Metro station and BMTC bus stand.

With no dedicated pedestrian pathway, commuters are forced to walk on busy roads filled with mud and garbage. Shubashree, a passenger, said, "After getting down at the Metro station, I walk nearly 300 metres to reach the BMTC bus stand. The stretch is both a safety and health hazard. There is absolutely no space for pedestrians to walk. After desilting works, waste has been dumped on the roadside and when it rains, it spreads all over the place."

Karthik M, a techie, said, "Lack of civic sense among people and apathy of officials have resulted in the mess at Silk Board Junction."

Thunderstorms paralyse city

Syed Asif

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Ahead of the likely advance of southwest monsoon over Karnataka, intense pre-monsoon thundershowers swept across central and southwest Bengaluru Friday evening, flooding major roads and junctions, uprooting trees, and throwing traffic out of gear.

According to India Meteorological Department (IMD), Bengaluru city saw 46mm of rainfall while HAL airport area received 20.8mm till 8.30 pm. IMD officials said rain is likely to intensify in the coming days as monsoon strengthens over southern peninsula and is expected to advance further.

The evening downpour inundated several low-lying stretches in central Bengaluru, including Kumara Krupa Road towards Shivananda Junction, Queen's Road towards Anil Kumble Circle, Vittal Mallya Road, and Cantonment Railway underpass near Mehkri Circle. Flooding was also reported at KR Market towards SJP Road.

In southwest Bengaluru, stretches on Mysuru Road, including Chamarajpet, BHEL Junction and Nayandahalli, witnessed severe waterlogging that led to long traffic snarls during peak evening hours.

Traffic police personnel and civic workers were deployed at multiple locations to clear clogged stormwater drain inlets and ease traffic movement. Emergency personnel removed uprooted trees from Kumaraswamy Layout, Vidyaranyapura and Outer Ring Road near PES University after roads were blocked and commuters stranded for nearly two hours. On Thursday evening too, 68 trees were uprooted, mainly in west and south Bengaluru.

Traffic curbs on Varthur road for Metro work

Bengaluru: Heavy goods vehicles have been prohibited from Saturday 11pm to Sunday 6am because of ongoing Metro work on Varthur Main Road at Marathahalli bridge. No HGVs will be allowed from HAL to Varthur/Whitefield via Varthur Main Road and Marathahalli bridge.

HGVs travelling from HAL towards Varthur and Whitefield should take Varthur Main Road, turn left near Marathahalli bridge junction, take Ashwathnagar service road to reach Outer Ring Road, take U-turn at Karthiknagar junction, proceed to Kalamandir junction, continue on the service road to reach Varthur Main Road, then take a left to go towards Whitefield and Varthur.

Heavy vehicles from Varthur and Whitefield towards HAL should take Varthur Main Road, take a left near Marathahalli bridge junction, proceed via Outer Ring Road to Kadubeesanahalli junction.

Service disruption Sunday

To carry out maintenance work, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd announced temporary suspension of Metro services between Deepanjalinagar and Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna (KSR) stations on Sunday from 7am to 9am. A press release issued by BMRCL stated that maintenance works will be taken up between Attiguppe and Vijayanagara stations on the Purple Line.

During this period, Metro services will operate between Challaghatta and Mysuru Road, and between Majestic and Whitefield. Services on Green and Yellow Lines will operate as usual. Full services on Purple Line between Challaghatta and Whitefield will resume at 9am. TNN

Cops reunite missing boy with family

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: An eight-year-old boy who went missing from home while playing on the roadside was reunited with his family.

On the night of May 26, the police control room received a call stating a boy was spotted near gate no. 2 of MS Ramaiah College. The boy was crying and told Hoysala patrol police he lived in Mathikere. But he couldn't recollect the address of his house or his mother's mobile number.

Hoysala staffers, assistant sub-inspector of police Narasimhamurthy and head constable Naveen Kumar, pacified the boy and gave him chocolates. They walked towards Mathikere and asked residents, shopowners and others whether they knew the boy. Finally, one of them recognised the child and shared his mother's number. Narasimhamurthy called her and she responded. "Within one hour, the child was reunited with his family," a senior police officer said

ALMANAC (30.5.2026)

Vrishabha Masa 15 Shri Parabhava Nama Samvatsara – Uttarayana – Greeshma Ritu - Tithi: Adhika Jyeshtha Shukla Chaturdasi h. 11-58 Nakshatra: Visakha h. 13-21 Yoga: Siva ahoratra. 13 Zulhijja Kali Day 1872725

Rahu Kalam 9am—10.30am

— KL Vidya Shankara Somayaji

No suicide, yet abetment case filed: HC pulls up cop

Vasantha.Kumar
@timesofindia.com

'RECKLESS' ACTION

Bengaluru: Karnataka high court directed a departmental inquiry against the officer-in-charge at Banaswadi police station who filed a chargesheet for an offence punishable under Section 108 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita—abetment to suicide—when the purported victim was still alive.

Justice M Nagaprasanna observed that there was no suicide in the case and directed that the action taken against the cop be reported to the court within three months of receiving a copy of the order. The observation came while allowing the petition filed by Nixon, the accused who also happens to be the husband of Priya, the complainant.

The couple, residing in RS Palya, were married for seven years. On Oct 21, 2025, at 9pm, a squabble broke out between them when Nixon came home in an inebriated state and tried to assault Priya. She then allegedly attempted to kill herself by jumping from the second floor of the house and sustained injuries. After receiving treatment, she approached Banaswadi police to file a complaint. In the complaint, Priya stated that she attempted to commit suicide. However, police registered a case of abetment to suicide against the husband, who was arrested. After investigation, the chargesheet was also filed for the same offence.

The trial court refused bail to Nixon. In the meantime, the couple reconciled, and Nixon moved the high court for quashing of the proceedings. He argued that there was no suicide in the case to invoke the abetment offence against him. He also stated that the couple now wanted to live together, after burying their differences.

After perusing the material on record, including the complaint filed by the wife, Justice Nagaprasanna strongly disapproved of the action taken by police. He said the case exposed a "mechanical prosecution and reckless use of a penal provision" that could not have been invoked based on the admitted facts. He noted that Section 108 applies only when a person dies by suicide, and yet police registered a case and filed a chargesheet under it.

Observing that the most disturbing aspect was that the petitioner spent six months in prison despite the charge lacking any legal basis, the judge said the case reflected investigative negligence and disregard for personal liberty.

Saying the criminal justice system cannot function on the whims of investigating officers, Justice Nagaprasanna said the case showed clear non-application of mind, resulting in the incarceration of a citizen for an offence that did not legally exist. He therefore directed a departmental inquiry against the cop and ordered the petitioner's immediate release from judicial custody.

Housebreak: Two juveniles, 3 others nabbed

Bengaluru: Jayanagar police have cracked a housebreak case with the arrest of five accused, including two juveniles, and recovered eight expensive watches and other stolen valuables.

The accused — Tousif, 20, Syed Rafiq, 22, Imamul, 22, and the two 16-year-olds — are all residents of Tilak Nagar. They allegedly burgled the residence of JET Bus Travels owner Syed Mohammed Akbar, 55, in Jayanagar 4th T Block on the night of May 19.

According to Akbar's complaint, he occasionally visited his old house to check on the property. On May 19, a neighbour alerted him that the front door of the house was ajar. He found valuables missing from the house, including Rs 20,000 in cash, eight branded watches, a gold-plated mobile phone, silver articles, a gold coin and bus parts.

Police detained two juvenile suspects in Jayanagar 1st Block on May 20. They allegedly confessed to committing the theft along with four accomplices. The minors were sent to the state home the following day. Later, police arrested three others from Tilak Nagar; the fourth accomplice is said to be absconding. TNN

Couple flees with ₹25L from employer's home

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: A family's trust in their domestic workers from Nepal proved costly after cash amounting to Rs 25 lakh, kept in a bedroom cupboard, was allegedly stolen from their house on May 27.

The suspects have been identified as security guard Bhuvan Bista and domestic help Seeta Bista. According to the complaint filed by CH Subbareddy, a contractor, the couple had been working in his house for the past month and lived in a room there.

Subbareddy had withdrawn large amounts of cash from the bank over the past 15-20 days to pay wages to labourers working for him. The complainant stated he had locked Rs 25 lakh inside a cupboard in the bedroom, with its key kept beneath clothes in another cupboard.

Seeta, who handled household chores, including sweeping and cleaning, had free access to all the rooms in the house and allegedly observed where the family kept the cash and cupboard keys.

According to the complainant, the couple stayed in the house along with their children, behaved politely and appeared trustworthy. On May 27, around 9am, Subbareddy left the house for work while his wife stayed at home. When he returned around 4pm, the workers were nowhere to be found and the door to the room allotted to them was found open.

Suspicious, the couple checked the bedroom cupboard and found that Rs 25 lakh cash was missing. Attempts to contact the workers failed as their mobile phones were switched off.

A case has been registered under Section 306 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita at Amruthahally police station, and efforts are on to nab the couple.

Woman found dead, gold chain missing

A 23-year-old woman working with the Regional Transport Office (RTO), Chikkaballapur, was found murdered with her throat slit near her residence Thursday night.

The deceased has been identified as B Pushpa, who was originally from Bengaluru. She had married a private company employee, Bharat, three years ago and lived in a rented house near Kanadavarapete, police said. The incident came to light when residents alerted police about a woman lying dead near the fort area.

"The body was found around 1km from her house. Her throat was slit and her gold chain missing," an investigating officer said, adding they suspect that someone known to her was involved in the crime. TNN

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ComedK results out: K'taka students find no top spots

5 Jharkhand Natives In Top 10 Ranks

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Not a single Karnataka student has featured in the top 10 ranks of Consortium Medical, Engineering and Dental Colleges of Karnataka's (ComedK) undergraduate entrance test, the results for which were announced Friday.

Five toppers of the first six ranks were from Jharkhand; rank 3 was from Uttarakhand; rank 7 from Andhra Pradesh; #8 from Chhattisgarh; #9 from Punjab and #10 from Bihar. Darshil Modi from Ranchi secured rank 1, Priyanuj Bhagabati of Jamshedpur, rank 2 and Shrestha Gupta of Dehradun, Uttarakhand, rank 3.

Darshil is currently in Jaipur, attending his coaching classes. He hopes to crack Joint Entrance Examination (Advanced). Shrestha is likely to join RV College of Engineering for computer science.

Last year, four of the top 10 candidates were from Karnataka alone.

Among the top 100 students, there are 30 Karnataka candidates; 11,207 candidates are in the 90th to 100th percentile. Out of this, 3,496 candidates are from Karnataka. Similarly, of the 11,385 candidates between the 80th and 90th percentile, 3,207 candidates are from Karnataka. Likewise, 10,940 candidates are between the 70th and 80th percentile, of which 3,111 candidates are all from Karnataka.

Around 1,10,774 (36,954 Karnataka and 73,820 non-Karnataka) candidates wrote the test on May 9, 2026.

The exam holds key to around 20,000 engineering seats in 150 private colleges of the state.

"Since we have been hearing about so many exam scams, we have also checked the veracity as we noticed clustering of high ranks from one state. All the five students have secured more than 95% in class 10 and 12 marks. Additionally, we have also ordered a forensic audit of the centres in Jharkhand. Our team will check CCTV footage and video recording of the exam and check the veracity," said Dr S Kumar, executive secretary, ComedK.

"For the past 29 years, we have been conducting the exam without a glitch. We have also added a disclaimer on the website that if there is any evidence of malpractice, we will have the right to cancel their rank," he said.

Counselling will be conducted online and candidates have to upload scanned copies of the documents. The number of seats available, quantum of tuition fees and counselling dates will be notified in due course.

A separate set of counselling process documents, detailing the procedure for participating in counselling, will be made available shortly on the website (www.comedk.org).

File photo

Among the top 100 students for ComedK, there are only 30 Karnataka candidates

TOPPERS 2026

Darshil Modi

Priyanuj Bhagabati

Shrestha Gupta

ENTRANCE EXAM

- Provisional answer keys published on May 16, 2026
- 136 candidates challenged answer keys
- Final answer keys published on May 23, 2026
- Since the exam was conducted in two sessions, percentile scores of candidates have been considered for announcing the ranks

2 men die as mini-bus rams five vehicles

Bengaluru: Two men astride two-wheelers died and three pedestrians sustained injuries when a speeding mini-bus carrying 20 private company employees rammed five vehicles near Kadirenahalli in Banashankari late Thursday night.

The victims are Uday Kumar, 60, engineer with a private firm, and Selva Kumar, 52. Pedestrians, identified as Ramamurthy, Kumar and Vasant, were shifted to private hospital and are out of danger, police said.

Bus driver Nagaraj fled the scene. However, he was arrested later from his Laggere residence. Nagaraj said brakes of the mini-bus failed, but police said his claims should be verified with inspection reports made by officials of Regional Transport Office (RTO). TNN

High court gets 3 additional judges

Bengaluru: Karnataka high court has got three new additional judges, who were serving as judicial officers.

They are Rajeshwari Narayana Hegde, who will be additional judge till March 17, 2028 (her superannuation date), Kedambadi Ganesh Shanthi and Brungesh Mahadevappa who will serve for two years, with effect from the date they assume charge. TNN

61-year-old convinced of black magic pays ₹8L to 'astrologers'

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Bengaluru: A 61-year-old man seeking relief from family problems lost over Rs 8 lakh to a gang of cyber fraudsters — Murali NS, Veda Murthy and Mahesh Bhat — posing as astrologers. They convinced him that his family was suffering due to black magic and promised to get rid of the evil spells through rituals over a year ago. After realising he was cheated, he filed a complaint recently.

According to the complaint filed by Panduranga AN, a resident of Shankarapuram, south Bengaluru, his ordeal began on March 9, 2025. He clicked on a Facebook advertisement and later, got a call from a man identifying himself as Murali from "Rayara Jyotishya Phala Kendra." As Panduranga shared the problems faced by his family, Murali collected the horoscope details from him.

Murali later claimed to have studied the complainant's horoscope and allegedly told him that someone had performed black magic on his family, causing constant problems and preventing progress in life. Exploiting his fears, Murali assured him that they would "remove the spell" and demanded Rs 10 lakh.

Murthy provided his UPI IDs. Panduranga initially transferred smaller amounts through digital payment applications before making multiple payments to bank accounts provided by the accused between March 14 and April 9 last year.

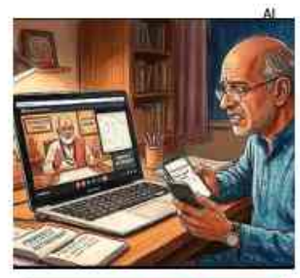
Later, Murali provided him with a bank account number to which the victim transferred Rs 5 lakh between Oct 14 and Nov 27 last year, as instructed by the fraudsters. The accused reportedly assured him that the black magic issue would be resolved within a month. However, when the complainant later tried contacting them, his calls allegedly went unanswered. Soon after, another person, identifying himself as Mahesh Bhat, contacted him and demanded an additional Rs 5 lakh to solve his problem.

When the complainant refused to make any more payments and insisted on getting his money back after giving them ample time to refund, the accused refused, threatened him verbally and switched off their phones.

A senior police officer said the complainant had not met the accused in person and all the conversations and payments happened online.

A case has been registered under Information Technology Act and Section 318 (cheating) of BNS at Shankarapuram police station on May 21. "Efforts are on to trace the accused. People should be cautious about fake advertisements on social media platforms. No such payments should be made without meeting the person," the officer further added.

AI



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One click on APK file for pension card and senior citizen loses ₹5L

Bengaluru: An elderly person lost almost Rs 5.1 lakh after clicking on a fake "ICICI Pension Card" APK file sent through WhatsApp from an unknown number offering multiple discounts on medicines and fuel.

According to the complaint filed by Pallavan, 72, (name changed), a resident of Seegehalli, he received a WhatsApp message from the number 8780179502 on May 22. The message contained a link promoting an "APPY ICICI Pension Card", claiming a 25 per cent discount on medicines, a 20 per cent discount on fuel, and no annual charges.

Trusting the message to be from the bank, Pallavan clicked on the link, following which an APK file was automatically downloaded onto his phone. Soon after, multiple OTPs began filling his inbox continuously.

Before he could realise what was happening, fraudulent transactions were allegedly carried out from his ICICI Bank account and linked credit card. Cybercriminals siphoned off Rs 7,604 and another Rs 4,98,913 in multiple transactions, taking the total loss to Rs 5,06,517.

According to police, the APK file contained malicious software that gained unauthorised access to the victim's mobile phone, banking details, and OTPs.

Investigation is ongoing to freeze the amount from the fraudsters' accounts. TNN

METRO WRAP

5 die as driver loses control after tyre burst

Five people from Chitradurga's Challakere died Thursday night when their car hit the rear of a stationary truck near Tumakurhalli Gate on NH-150A in Molakalmuru taluk. The accident occurred when the victims were travelling from Ballari to Challakere. They are Raghavendra, 40, a photographer, Rudresh, 36, Somashekar, 35, Mallikarjun, and Pramod, a 35-year-old councillor in Challakere municipality. The driver lost control of the car after its tyre burst and collided with the truck at 10.15pm. The front portion of the car was crushed, trapping the occupants inside.

Bescom official caught taking ₹15-lakh bribe

Lokayukta police Friday arrested a Bescom vigilance official while allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 15 lakh. BS Basavarajaiah, 57, allegedly took the money from Ambareesh, a resident of Doddaballapur, to reduce an electricity penalty amount.

New bi-weekly train to Vijayapura

Railway board has approved the launch of a new bi-weekly express train between Yeshvantpur and Vijayapura from June 1. 06577 Yeshwantpur-Vijayapura train will operate Saturdays and Mondays, while 06578 Vijayapura-Yeshwantpur will run Sundays and Tuesdays.

70-yr-old woman drugged, robbed

A 70-year-old woman from Bannerghatta Road was allegedly drugged and robbed of gold ornaments and cash near Dharmasthala temple bus stand on May 25. While she was waiting for a bus, an unidentified man seated nearby offered her prasad and juice. After some time, she began feeling unwell. Taking advantage of her condition, he stole ornaments and Rs 7,000 from her bag.

NO SCREENING OF IPL AT PUBLIC PLACES

In the backdrop of last year's tragedy in which 11 persons were killed outside Chinnaswamy Stadium while celebrating Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB)'s IPL victory, city police have strictly prohibited activities that lead to crowding at public places or cause problems to commuters on roads during Sunday's IPL final match. Home team RCB has already reached the final, which will be held in Ahmedabad.

City police commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh, in a press release, said showing the match live on LED screens at public places is strictly prohibited. "After the final match result is announced, fans should not engage in any kind of celebrations in public places. LED walls facing roads should not be put up without prior permission from the authorities concerned and the match should not be telecast on existing LED walls. Screens must not be installed outside malls, pubs, or other places in a manner visible to the public," it stated. TNN

File photos

BANNED: Police have prohibited activities that lead to crowding or cause problems to commuters on roads during the IPL final

Other instructions

- Bursting crackers and using dangerous materials prohibited
- Peace and discipline must be maintained in crowded areas
- Instructions and guidance issued by traffic police must be strictly followed
- Bike rallies, overspeeding, stunts, misuse of horns and road blockages prohibited
- People advised not to consume alcohol in public places and create disturbances, engage in fights or behave indecently
- Provocative posts, hateful messages or rumours should not be shared on social media
- Under the pretext of match result, fans of other teams should not be provoked, insulted or engaged in behaviour that may lead to street fights

Free Namma Metro rides on Sunday, book via app

Bengalureans will be able to travel for free on Namma Metro this Sunday, when RCB will play in the 2026 tournament final. The incentive is available across all lines to every fan in the city, bookable directly through the ConfirmTkt app. Commuters can avail of two rides for free, worth a maximum of Rs 100.

JP Nagar to host event one last time

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: As Sunday marks the final Happy Streets event at JP Nagar, the street specials are set to go out on a high note. The Times of India's initiative wraps up its JP Nagar chapter with a mix of creativity, civic engagement and hands-on activities, offering residents one last opportunity to step out and participate.

Reclaim Constitution will be on ground with printed copies of the Preamble, encouraging passersby to reconnect with the values that form the foundation of Indian democracy.

Adding a nostalgic touch, Postcrossing Welfare Society of India (PSOI) will set up a philately stall celebrating stamps and postcard writing. As Col. Akhil Kumar (retd), president of PSOI, notes, such hobbies give younger generations a "mindful, screen-free" way to engage with history, art and cultures across the world — with each postcard serving as a personal keepsake and a small ambassador of Indian heritage.

Prashree Art will conduct calming mandala sessions, while Art Attic will host interactive workshops for children and adults, including keychain making, bookmark designing and self-portrait sketching — activities that blend playfulness with personal expression.

Adding a fitness angle to the morning, M3 Fitness Gym will bring accessible workout equipment to the street, making fitness more approachable in a relaxed, open setting. Happy Streets is presented by Bhima Jewellers.

File photo

GRAND FINALE: The community event is set to wrap up its JP Nagar chapter on a high note

BHIMA presents HAPPY streets — OUR ROADS. OUR WAY.

5-10 ministers likely to take oath with DKS, cabinet expansion to be taken up later

▶ Contd from page 1

Satish Jarkiholi, who is likely to replace Shivakumar as Karnataka Congress chief indicated that the high command's decision could be announced by Siddaramaiah during the CLP meeting.

Sources close to Shivakumar said 5-10 ministers are likely to take oath along with him if there is a consensus, while the larger cabinet expansion will be taken up later after consultations on caste, regional and political representation.

On Friday, Siddaramaiah met Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi in Delhi along with his son Yathindra. Sources said he declined an offer for a Rajya Sabha berth and instead pushed for adequate cabinet representation for his loyalists in the new govt besides seeking a larger political role for his son.

Siddaramaiah reportedly proposed reviving a coordination committee model to act as a bridge between the party and the govt. He had earlier headed a similar panel during the Congress-JD(S) coalition govt in 2018.

However, sources indicated that the Congress high command was not inclined towards the proposal as the party currently enjoys a clear majority on its own and sees little need for such an arrangement.

Instead, they are trying to persuade Siddaramaiah to accept the Rajya Sabha offer and have asked him to revert by June 5.

Shivakumar also held discussions with AICC leaders in Delhi on cabinet formation and has sought appointments with Rahul and Priyanka for the oath-taking ceremony.

In a message on X, Shivakumar described Siddaramaiah's political journey as inspirational and sought the latter's continued guidance.

"Let us all move forward together for the progress of Karnataka," Shivakumar said. "God does not give boons or curses. He only gives opportunities. What truly matters is what we make of those opportunities," he added.

TOI

DK Shivakumar and other senior party functionaries catch up on the latest developments of the day in New Delhi Friday

Golden Chariot slashes fare by 20% this year

Anush.S@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: The Golden Chariot is set to become cheaper ahead of the 2026-27 tourist season. The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), which operates the luxury train, will offer a 20% discount on its existing tariff.

Introduced in 2008 by Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) to attract foreign tourists, the train was named after the famed golden chariot at Hampi's Vitthala temple. Following losses and Covid-19 pandemic, KSTDC handed over operations of the train to IRCTC despite still owning it.

Of the 12 trips announced till 2028, tickets for 10 trips will be discounted. The train offers three tour options this year, including its signature "Pride of Karnataka" package that covers the state for five nights and six days.

Travelling through Bengaluru, Bandipur, Mysuru, Halebidu, Chikkamagaluru, Hampi and Goa, it costs $5,000 (over Rs 4.8L) for a single ticket. With the discount, prices for the package will drop to $4,000 (over Rs 3.8L).

Another package, "Jewels of South," running five nights and six days, explores Kerala and Tamil Nadu as well. This trip, which was earlier priced at $3,400 (over Rs 3.3L), will now cost $2,720 (over Rs 2.6L). An additional 5% early bird discount applies for tourists, who complete advance payments on or before June 30.

The first such discounted trip will start Oct 24 this year. Ahead of the season, IRCTC claims it revamped the coaches by altering upholstery, lacquering wood surfaces and refreshing cabins with new linen and better bath amenities.

Safety has been improved with CCTV cameras, advanced fire alarm systems and an enhanced hospitality team. At its full capacity, the train can accommodate up to 80 guests across 40 cabins. The accommodation configuration includes 13 double-bed cabins, 26 twin-bed cabins and one cabin designed for differently-abled guests.

Following a disrupted start, the train recorded its highest number of passengers, 64, last year. In 2025, Golden Chariot ran a total of five trips, the highest so far. According to officials, tourists are mostly expected from the US, the UK and other parts of Europe, Australia and New Zealand. The US contributed the largest share, followed by UK.

File photo

LUXURY RAIL: Of the 12 trips announced till 2028, tickets for 10 trips for three options will be discounted

TIMES TRIBUTE
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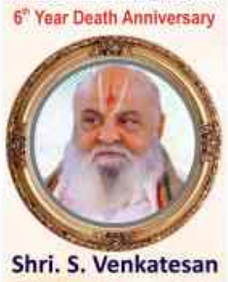
BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

Shri S Muralidharan
30.05.1966 - 05.06.2024
"Your life was a blessing, and your memory continues to inspire us every day."
Fondly Remembered by:
Family members

OBITUARY
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
IN LOVING MEMORY
6th Year Death Anniversary



Shri. S. Venkatesan
Chartered Accountant
03.09.1944
30.05.2020
शैले शैले न माणिक्यं मौक्तिकं न गजे गजे ! सज्जना : न हि सर्वत्र चन्दनं न वने वने !!
GEETHA VENKATESAN AND FAMILY
Associates and Staff Of
S. Venkatesan & Co.
Bengaluru

OBITUARY
OBITUARY SERVICES
SAD DEMISE

V.V. RAGHAVAN
(1941 – 2026)
With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of V.V. Raghavan, on 27th May 2026 at the age of 85.
He was a pillar of strength, love, and wisdom for our family.
"His kindness, generosity and gentle spirit will forever be cherished in our hearts."
With Love
Friends and Family

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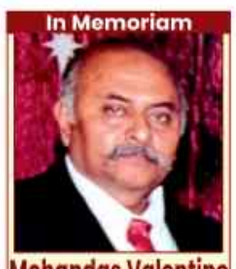
SAD DEMISE
In Memoriam



Mohandas Valentine Nicholas
20.08.1945 - 29.05.2026
With fond remembrance
Nicholas and Joel family

10AM

7-9PM

11PM

Does a perfect movie time slot exist?

4 September 2025

Late-night shows are the new prime time for Gen Z

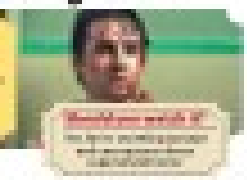
FILM REVIEWS

NOW IN CINEMAS

Jackie Shroff's Dadaji brings the superpower of fun

A film that talks about fading memory and unseen caregivers

A terrifying indie horror that turns love into a nightmare



OTT REVIEWS

NOW STREAMING

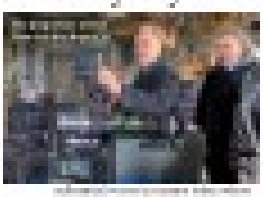
Nicolas Cage shines in this dark and wildly atmospheric ride

NEED HELP DECIDING WHAT TO WATCH? WE'VE GOT YOU!

VIJAY GANGARJ

CELEBRATING NOLAN

A Chris Nolan retrospective at TIFF ahead of The Odyssey



TIMES NATION

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026

HIMACHAL OFFERING STUDENT LOANS AT 1% INTEREST FOR HIGHER EDUCATION: CM

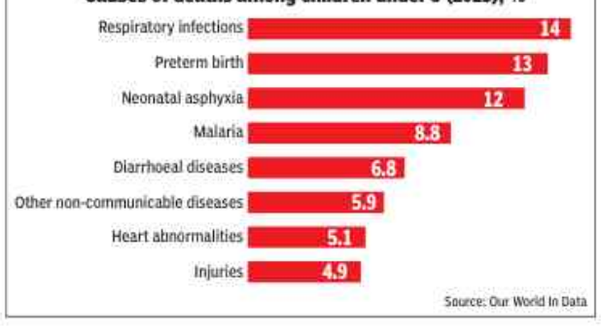
KERALA GUV DISPLEASED OVER INCOMPLETE RECITAL OF VANDE MATARAM; NOT MUST: CM

STATISTICS A slice of life in numbers

Over 1,800 kids under 5 die from respiratory infections every day

Nearly half of all deaths under the age of five are due to infectious diseases, led by respiratory infections (including pneumonia, influenza etc), alongside major causes like premature birth and neonatal asphyxia (suffocation, trauma)

Causes of deaths among children under 5 (2023), %



Source: Our World In Data

AAP wins big in Pjb civic polls ahead of 2027 state elections

Independents Won 251 Wards To Make Third Largest Chunk

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chandigarh: Punjab's governing AAP put up an emphatic show in municipal elections, winning over 950 (50%) wards as results came in Friday. Of the eight municipal corporations that went to the polls Tuesday, AAP won five — Mohali, Bathinda, Barnala, Moga and Batala.

Congress was a distant second, winning 390 wards, followed by SAD with 191 while BJP, which traditionally counts on its urban mass base, got 170. Surprisingly, Independents won 251 wards to make the third largest chunk. AAP won the majority of municipal corporations, councils and nagar panchayats with nine months to go for assembly elections.

AAP leaders celebrate in Chandigarh on Friday

CM Bhagwant Mann posted on X, "This is the victory of free electricity, Aam Aadmi Clinics, good schools, and transparency in jobs. Punjab has defeated divisive politics."

AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal said, "People of Punjab have applauded the work of Bhagwant Mann's govt and swept out 'ED Party'."

CONG COMES 2ND

Party	Wards Won*
AAP	886
Cong	358
Ind	246
SAD	178
BJP	153
BSP	6
Counting on 150	

Except Mohali, where AAP had a narrow victory, it won comprehensively in the other four municipal corporations. BJP won municipal corporations in Abohar and Pathankot and Congress in Kapurthala.

SAD, which is trying to resurrect its fortunes after crushing defeats in the 2017 and 2022 assembly elections, won in segments of the Badal hinterland of Bathinda district but got only three of 50 wards of the corporation.

BJP's performance will cause concern to the party leadership at a time when it is aggressively trying to take the party's footprints beyond urban pockets. In Barnala corporation, hometown of new state BJP chief Kewal Singh Dhillon, it BJP could win only six of 50 wards.

Congress state president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring congratulated party workers for putting up a "brave fight" and accused AAP of misusing official machinery and intimidating opposition candidates. "These results are not a true reflection of the ground reality."

INDIA DIGEST

Centre increases ED strength by 60%

With Rs 2.4 lakh crore of assets under attachment in money laundering cases, and these attachments increasing significantly every year, the Centre has expanded leadership roles in the Enforcement Directorate. The agency is headed by a director, who is assisted by seven special directors heading different zones across India. The headquarters and each of these zones have senior officers at the level of additional director. The strength of this position has increased from 10 to 24 in the recent restructuring. Additional directors have joint directors reporting to them, the strength of these JDs have gone up from 28 to 49 in the new revamped team; those of the deputy directors have been increased from existing 148 to 267; and the strength of assistant directors, is increased from 255 to 531.

VIP darshan in temples wrong, discriminatory: HC

Paid VIP darshan at Hindu temples is wrong and discriminatory, Madras high court said Friday while rejecting state's submission that withdrawing paid VIP darshan would cause loss of revenue. No such practice is followed in churches and mosques, HC further said.

HC quashes NSA detention of 2 cow slaughter accused

The Allahabad HC has quashed a detention order passed under the National Security Act (NSA), 1980, against two persons accused of cow slaughter, noting that the alleged act took place within the confines of a house. The court held that while cow slaughter is illegal in the state and may attract action under the relevant law, the undisputed fact is that the incident occurred within the four walls of a house.

HC dismisses anticipatory bail of Madhu Kishwar

Punjab and Haryana HC on Friday dismissed the anticipatory bail plea filed by academic Madhu Kishwar in connection with an FIR registered by Chandigarh Police over uploading and circulation of a social media video clip allegedly resembling the holder of a constitutional post. There is an obvious distinction between constructive criticism and tweeting/trolling to malign, Justice Aman Chaudhary said after hearing Kishwar's petition.

Court allows transit remand for Anil group's ex-official

A Delhi court on Friday allowed a CBI plea for transit remand of Amitabh Jhunjhunwala, a former senior executive of Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group now lodged in Delhi's Tihar jail on charges of financial crimes and money laundering, to be produced in a Mumbai court. Issuing the transit warrant, the court left it to Tihar jail authorities to take the final call based on medical advice about Jhunjhunwala from an AIIMS-Delhi panel. However, judge Anzar questioned the manner in which CBI had approached AIIMS Delhi for constitution of a medical board.

35-year-old Assam worker lynched in TN

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Chennai: A worker was beaten to death by a mob after he allegedly misbehaved with a woman in a village in Tiruvallur district of Tamil Nadu on Friday. The deceased was identified as Prosenjit Das, 35, a native of Kamrup district in Assam. Police said he was among six workers who had arrived in Tiruvallur district on Wednesday in search of employment and had rented a room.

According to police, Prosenjit, who was under the influence of alcohol, told his roommates he was going to a nearby shop but instead went to another village. He allegedly approached a woman who was alone at home, following which she called her relatives, who assaulted him.

SC: Misuse of dowry, Pocso laws hurting genuine cases

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New Delhi: Underscoring the "worrying trend" of women misusing laws on dowry harassment, domestic violence, Pocso by filing frivolous and vexatious complaint against husband and in-laws, Supreme Court on Friday said that genuine cases are getting overshadowed and obscured by the "overwhelming" number of false cases filed by spouses against one another as an 'arm-twisting' method to reach a more lucrative monetary settlement.

A bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and Ujjal Bhuyan said that nowadays a "matrimonial bouquet" is presented by the estranged wife against the husband and his family out of personal animosity once the relationship turns sour and rancorous and vice versa. It said the uglier side of such litigation is that the child is being used by the mother to file a Pocso case against the father.

"This 'matrimonial bouquet' often includes claims of dowry demands; cruelty under 498A IPC; harassment by in-laws and domestic violence, made by the complainant against her spouse and in-laws. This set of cases frequently include bogus and empty allegations and false claims of harassment, cruelty and marital hardships that, more often than not, contain little to no substance at all and are usually not backed by any material or other documentary evidence," the bench said, adding such cases are aimed at arraying family members, including those who are old and ailing, as accused.

"Parties involved in matrimonial or commercial relationships with one another are resorting to filing of frivolous and vexatious claims and allegations of a criminal nature to settle personal scores and grudges against each other and therefore turn to nefarious/oblique means to attain the said objective. We also painfully take judicial cognisance of the fact that the courts of law are being misused and overburdened by such vague and vexatious litigations between spouses as many a times, the recourse to law and police is taken, in an oblique way so as to antagonise, pressurise, hound and harass the other spouse and their family members in order to retaliate and exact revenge that is carried out due to sheer hatred and disdain for the said spouse and their family members."

8 killed in Bengal storm; flights hit

Kolkata: Eight people were killed, including two in Kolkata, after a severe squall with a top speed of 88kmph and intense rain left a trail of destruction across south Bengal on Friday.

Operations at Kolkata airport were suspended for nearly an hour, forcing five flight diversions and delaying around 20 departures. Metro and rail services were also affected as uprooted trees fell on tracks in the mid-afternoon squall, described as this season's fiercest nor'wester. The worst-hit areas included Kolkata, North and South 24 Parganas, Howrah, Hooghly, West Midnapore, Purulia and Jhargram. Kolkata's Alipore Met office recorded 40mm of rain during the hour-long spell.

In Kolkata, a street dweller died when an uprooted mango tree with a tangle of power cables fell on him near Princep Ghat. Another man was killed in Chetla area when the parapet of a dilapidated building came crashing down on him. Three others were injured in other places from falling trees. TNN

UP storm kills 12; 6 die as bridge slab collapses in Hamirpur

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Kanpur: A powerful storm battered several districts of Uttar Pradesh early Friday, killing at least 12 people, six of them in Hamirpur after part of an under-construction bridge on the Betwa River collapsed.

A group of labourers engaged in the bridge construction work were sleeping on the upper portion of a slab when it suddenly gave way in the storm around 3 am, said UP Bridge Corporation MD Dharmveer Singh. Three other workers trapped under the debris were pulled out by SDRF personnel in a rescue operation that lasted more than seven hours. A three-member committee will probe the accident, Singh said.

Govt has suspended assistant engineer Gajendra Kumar Chaudhary for negligence, while disciplinary action will be taken against district project manager Dilip Kumar.

Officials said three people died in Kaushambi, while one death each was recorded in Pratapgarh, Shahjahanpur and Fatehpur as the storm, accompanied by gusty winds touching 122 kmph in Hamirpur, wreaked havoc across multiple districts.

Rescue teams at the site where an under-construction bridge slab collapsed during a storm in Hamirpur on Friday

IMD recorded exceptionally strong winds in several parts of the state during the night. Jalaun's Orai tehsil reported gusts of 118 kmph, while Banda registered wind speeds up to 111 kmph. Mirzapur and Etmadpur in Agra saw wind speeds touching 100 kmph, while Jahangirpur village in Hathras registered 109 kmph.

Emergency response teams were deployed to carry out rescue and relief operations, and the administration launched an assessment of the damage caused by the storm. Hamirpur DM Abhishek Goel said IMD and the district administration had issued warnings of a severe storm and heavy rains on Thursday evening, and people in various villages were alerted through announcements.

CM Yogi Adityanath expressed grief over the loss of lives and announced financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh each to the families of the deceased workers and Rs 50,000 each to the injured.

15 dead in Pune hooch tragedy; 9 arrested so far

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Pune: At least 15 have died in Pune and Pimpri Chinchwad after allegedly consuming spurious liquor. Police have arrested nine people so far, including one Yogesh Vhankade who allegedly mixed methanol into country-made alcohol.

Four deaths were reported between late Thursday night and early Friday morning from Hadapsar area. Another five casualties were reported from Pimpri. Six deaths were reported on Thursday. On Friday evening, the CID was ordered to probe the case. "We have received an order from the DGP office to take over the investigation of the cases registered with the Pimpri Chinchwad and Pune police," said additional DGP (CID) Sunil Ramanand.

CM Devendra Fadnavis, meanwhile, has vowed stringent action. "It's akin to murder. Hence, stringent sections will be applied against those responsible for these deaths. Prima facie, it appears a methanol-like substance was used in making the illicit liquor. Police will provide more details after further investigation," he told reporters on Friday morning.

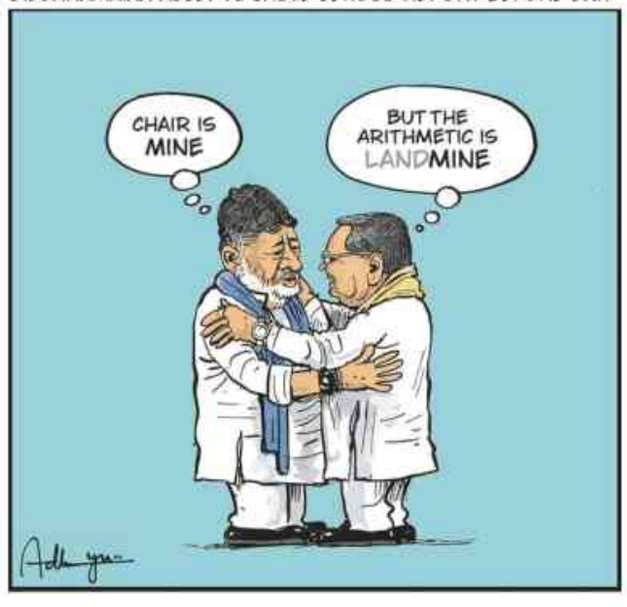
"The investigating authorities have unearthed the den where the illicit liquor was prepared. Eight people have been arrested so far (another arrest was made in the evening)," he said.

Two separate cases have been registered with the Dapodi and the Hadapsar police on Friday in connection with the deaths. The accused have been charged under BNS sections, including for culpable homicide not amounting to murder and sale of noxious food or drink, along with relevant sections of the Maharashtra Prohibition Act.

Additional DGP (CID) Ramanand told TOI Friday evening, "We have dispatched teams to Hadapsar and Dapodi to collect samples and other evidence."

TOI LINE OF NO CONTROL SANDEEP ADHWARYU

SIDDARAMAIAH ACCEPTS CASTE CENSUS REPORT BEFORE EXIT



Official: Many illegal immigrants allegedly procured PAN, Aadhaar and voter IDs

▶ Continued from page 1

Together, they hold 335 detainees, including those rounded up after converging on the Hakimpur border checkpoint in Swarupnagar to cross over to Bangladesh, sources said.

Basirhat and Bongaon police districts, both bordering Bangladesh, account for five holding centres between them. Officials said the detainees were being provided food, medical care and essential amenities while authorities verify their nationality before handing them over to Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).

A senior district official said most of those detained entered India illegally 5-10 years ago while a few crossed the border as recently as seven or eight months back.

"Many allegedly procured PAN cards, Aadhaar cards and voter identity cards by paying bribes," the official said.

But on being stopped by BSF at the border while trying to exit, they were carrying only identity documents issued by Bangladesh.

Discussions between BSF and BGB on verification and deportation procedures are underway. "Until their Bangladeshi citizenship is officially verified, the infiltrators will be kept at the holding centres. Thereafter, they will be deported to Bangladesh in phases," a senior BSF official said.

In Bongaon subdivision, authorities have begun converting an unused govt building near the Petrapole border into another holding centre. Restoration of electricity and drinking water started Thursday. A second building near Petrapole railway station has also been identified for the purpose. Suspected infiltrators detained from Gaighata, Bongaon and Bagda are to be housed there.

Search operations have simultaneously intensified across Habra, Ashoknagar, Kalyangarh, Bongaon and Gaighata. Around 25 suspected infiltrators from the Habra-Ashoknagar belt have already been shifted to the Basirhat holding camps.

Most of those detained claimed agents facilitated their border crossings by exploiting gaps in BSF patrol patterns. "The agents would charge anything between Rs 7,000 and Rs 20,000 a person," one detainee said.

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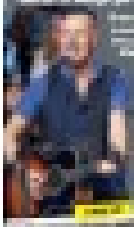

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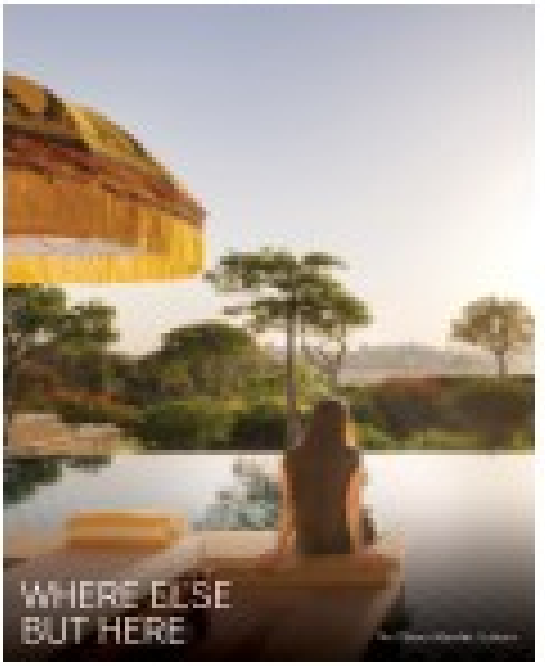

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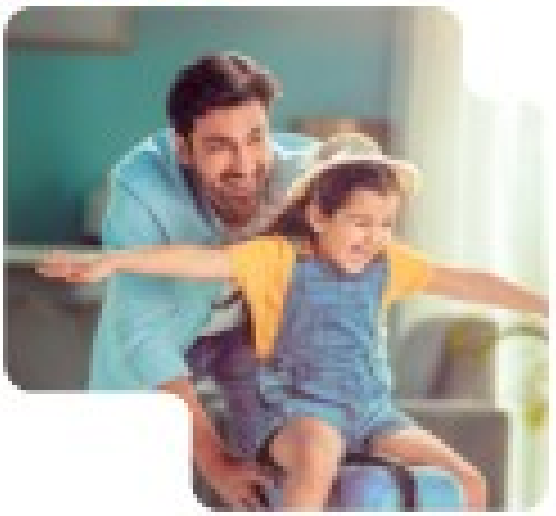

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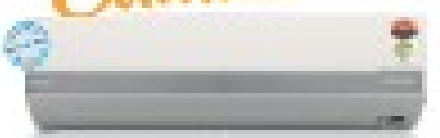

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At 82.7%, T'gana tops highest percentage of first-order births

▶ Continued from page 1

Among the bigger states and Union Territories, Telangana has the highest percentage of first-order births at 82.7%, while Kerala had the lowest at 47.9%. Interestingly, Kerala had the highest percentage of second-order and third-order births at 34.9% and 13.3% respectively, while Telangana has the lowest second and third-order births at 13.4% and 2.9% respectively.

Data shows Madhya Pradesh has the highest percentage of fourth or higher-order births at 6.5%, while Andhra Pradesh has the lowest at 0.5%. Data on birth order and the interval between successive live births have been collected under the SRS since 1990. Birth order — the chronological sequence of a child's birth within a family — and birth interval are key indicators of child spacing and fertility levels.

The trend in terms of birth order in 2024 is in keeping with past years. In 2023, first order-births accounted for 66% and fourth or higher-order births were 3.6%. In 2022, 64% live births were first-order births and the fourth or higher-order births stood at 4.7%. As far as spacing of births, 53.5% of the second- and higher-order births occurred 36 months or more after the previous live birth and just 1.4% of the live births occurred within 10-12 months of the previous live birth. According to the data, 19.3% births occurred within 12-24 months and 25.8% occurred within 24-36 months.

CJP account on X pure satire, founder tells HC

▶ Continued from page 1

Justice Kaurav permitted Dipke to appear virtually before the panel, saying if the panel is satisfied that blocking must be set aside, it is legally empowered to do so.

Issuing notice to the Centre and X, on Dipke's petition against the blocking of the CJP's handle, HC sought their responses and listed the matter for hearing on July 7.

Senior advocate Akhil Sibal, appearing for Dipke, submitted that the CJP account was "pure satire" and if there were some "objectionable" tweets, only those could be blocked instead of withholding the entire account.

Seeking interim unblocking of the handle, Sibal urged the judge to peruse the blocking order, which, he said, had not yet been supplied to him. Justice Kaurav, however, observed that the blocking order was not on record and it would consider the petitioner's request after the Centre files a reply to the plea.

"We will consider. This entire law (on blocking) is still at a nascent stage. Let us not precipitate things today. Let them take notice and come back to us. Whatever material they have, I can direct them to place it," the judge said, adding that in the meantime, the petitioner could raise his grievance before the review committee.

Dipke, who was earlier associated with AAP, launched the CJP amid a controversy over remarks attributed to Chief Justice of India Surya Kant on "cockroaches" and "parasites" during a hearing on May 15 on a plea by a lawyer seeking designation as a senior advocate. On May 16, the CJI issued a clarification, saying he was "pained" by media reports suggesting he had criticised the youth. He emphasised that his remarks were specifically directed at individuals entering the legal profession through "fake and bogus degrees" and that he was "misquoted by a section of the media".

Students allege visibility issues in answer sheet during digi evaluation

▶ Continued from page 1

Ministry sources also informed 20 more students were allegedly provided scanned copies of answer sheets belonging to other candidates because of scanning mix-ups linked to security features embedded during digitisation. One such case involved a student, Vedant, who claimed he had received unexpectedly low marks despite performing well in physics. During the re-evaluation process, it was allegedly discovered that his answer sheet had been mistakenly replaced with that of another student.

Officials also said at least 50 students were overcharged during the application process for obtaining scanned copies and applying for verification or re-evaluation after the declaration of the XII board results this year. Multiple students also reported payment gateway failures and repeated deductions while attempting to submit applications on the CBSE portal during periods of heavy traffic.

However, this year's process has witnessed multiple complaints. Around two lakh students had obtained scanned copies of answer sheets in 2025, while this year the number crossed four lakh, significantly increasing pressure on the system. Officials said the actual scale of verification and re-evaluation requests would become clearer after the verification window opens from June 1.

Teams from IIT-Madras and IIT-Kanpur have been asked to examine CBSE's portal and technical infrastructure following complaints related to server load, payment failures and unauthorised attacks during peak traffic periods.

The on-screen marking system has also drawn criticism from some students and teachers who alleged that certain answer sheets were not properly visible during digital evaluation. 98,66,222 class XII answer books were scanned this year, of which 13,853 had to be manually evaluated because repeated scans failed to clearly capture handwriting written in very light ink.

Bail orders must reach at once: SC

▶ Continued from P 1

Mere prompt pronouncement of the order granting bail would no longer be sufficient as the top court mandated that it must also be communicated to the jail authorities with equal promptness to ensure that the undertrial/convict is released from custody immediately, preferably the same day or certainly by the next day, unless he was required to be kept behind bars in other cases or for failure to furnish the bail bonds.

Supreme Court asked the trial courts concerned to report compliance of the bail order to their HCs.

However, Supreme Court gave some leeway to high courts and said if a bench was of the opinion in cases where an order was required urgently but delivering a reasoned judgment would take time, it can pronounce the operative part immediately and follow it up in the next 15 days.

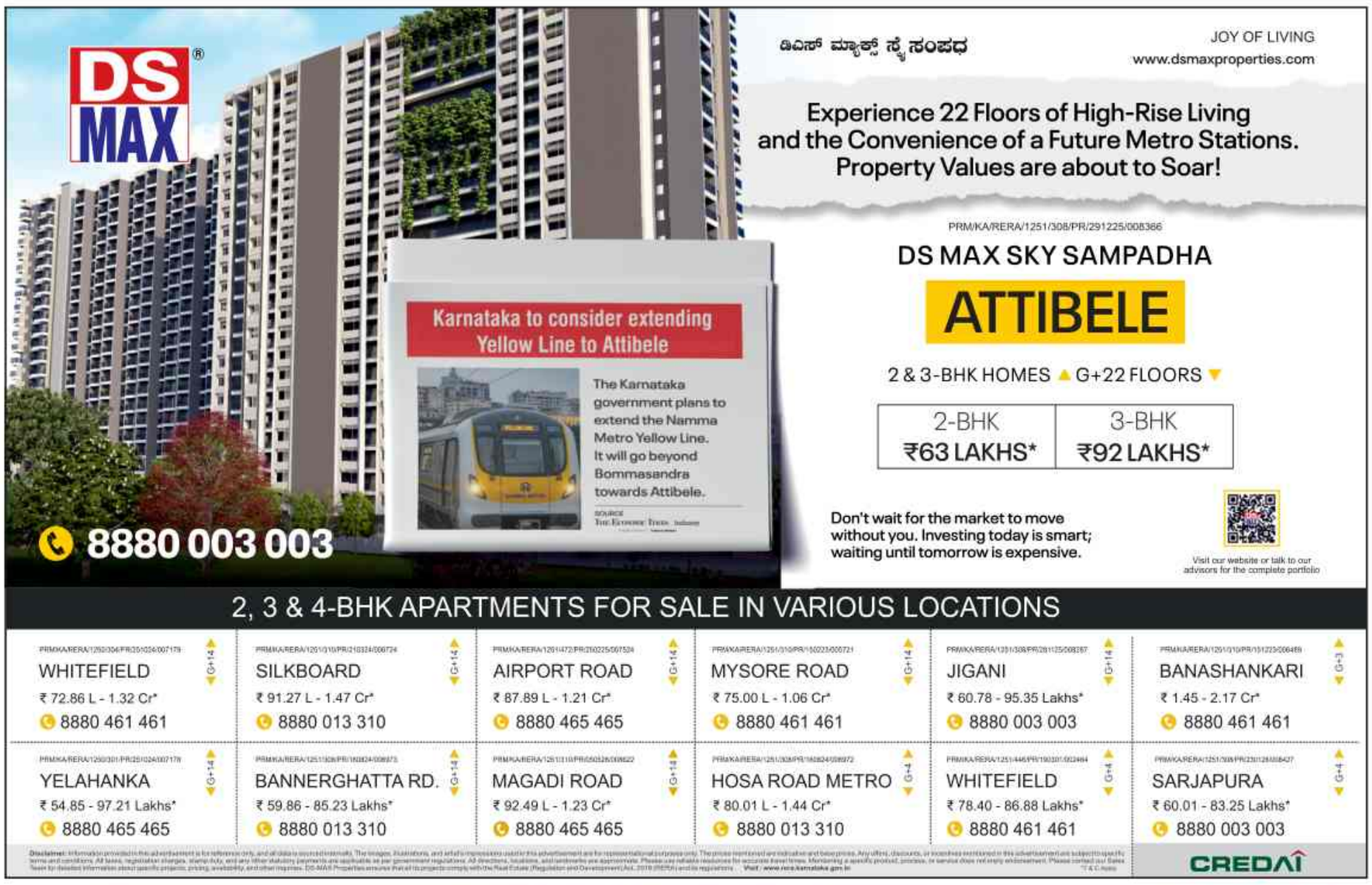
IndiGo stayed resilient despite tough FY 26: MD

▶ Continued from P 1

After being in the black for two years, India's largest airline reported a loss of Rs 2,394 crore in FY 26, compared to a profit of Rs 7,258 crore in the previous fiscal, due to "exceptionally sharp rupee depreciation, changes in labour laws and a challenging operating environment" referring to airspace closures and jet fuel prices, among other things.

The airline's scrip closed 3.5% lower at Rs 4,405.95 on BSE Friday, when the broader market had tanked 1.4%. IndiGo is now studying whether fuel hedging can be an option in current volatility.

IndiGo MD Rahul Bhatia said: "FY26 was marked by an exceptionally challenging operating environment, which materially impacted our profitability. Despite this, the underlying performance of the business remained resilient."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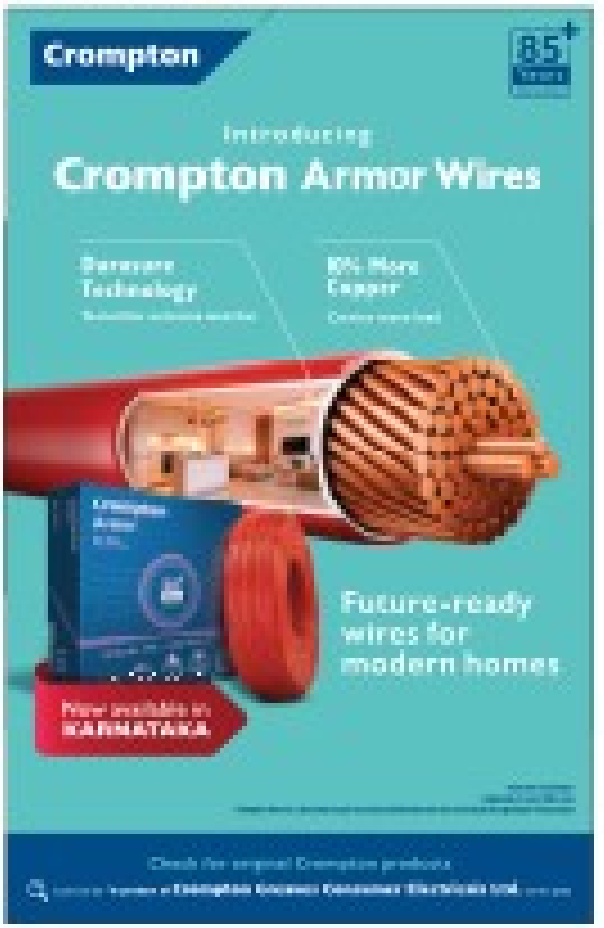

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No. 1698 /MMU Dt. 29/05/2026

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

Maa Manikeshwari University invites applications in both physical and online mode through HIMS portal from Indian citizens having eligibility as per the UGC Notification, New Delhi, dated 18th July 2018, for appointment to the posts of Assistant Professor/ Associate Professor/ Professor against regular sanctioned vacant posts in the departments of Anthropology, Botany, Chemistry, Commerce, Education, Economics, English, Geography, History, Mathematics, Odia, Physics, Political Science, Sanskrit, Sociology and Zoology of this University as directed vide Letter No. 5322/HE, Dated 31.01.2026 of Department of the Higher Education, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar. The online application form and department wise reservation details will be made available on the University website **https://kalahandiuniversity.ac.in/** and HIMS Portal from 01.06.2026 onwards. For details of the terms and conditions, guidelines for applying etc. Please visit the University website.

Application open date: 01.06.2026
Application closing date: 05.07.2026
Closing Date for receipt of Printed copy of the application: 15.07.2026

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TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Bid Submission Schedule (Online)	Opening Technical Bid (Online)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - Roads Division No. 3			
1.	Special Repair / Maintenance of Community Centre at Milk Colony Dhanas, Chandigarh. Capital Head : NRB. Est. Cost : Rs.176.22 Lacs Earnest Money : Rs. 3,52,438/- Time Limit: 06 Months	29.05.2026 To 05.06.2026 upto 12.00 noon	05.06.2026 at 15.00 noon

Note:- All other terms and conditions and complete DNIT are uploaded on website https://etenders.chd.nic.in

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
Roads Division No.3, Room No.311, M.C. Chandigarh. Ph. 0172-5021482 xenroad3.mcc@chd.nic.in

Girl (4) falls into well, dies

Agra: A four-year-old girl died after falling into a 70-foot-deep dry well while playing in Agra on Thursday, triggering protests by villagers who alleged delays in the rescue operation. TNN

TN moves NGT against proposed dam

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Tamil Nadu govt has approached the principal bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to seek directions to restrain Karnataka govt from proceeding with any activity at the proposed Mekedatu dam site. The Tamil Nadu govt has contended that the project, if pursued without mandatory clearances, would cause serious prejudice to the state. TN's move comes against the backdrop of Karnataka deputy chief minister D K Shivakumar's statement that the state would soon submit a detailed project report to Union govt and conduct bhoomi puja after receiving the Centre's approval. Earlier this week, Supreme Court rejected Tamil Nadu's petition seeking review of its earlier order in Nov on a miscellaneous application related to Mekedatu dam.

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Cochin-682009
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E- TENDER NOTICE

Online bids are invited for "**Dredging for Maintenance of Channels and Basins at Cochin Port for the year 2026-27.**" Estimated Cost: **Rs. 163.02 Crore.** For details, visit - **www.cochinport.gov.in or www.tenders.gov.in** or **www.tenderwizard.com/COPT.**

Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER
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CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

The following **e-Tenders** can be accessed under the link **www.ireps.gov.in.** Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link **www.ireps.gov.in → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply.** Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, **Dy.CMM/P/CLW/Chittaranjan, 9163340721 or AMM/P, 9163342746** for notice Sl. No. [A] and **Dy.CMM/II/CLW/Chittaranjan, 9163340708 or AMM/M, 9163340706** for notice Sl.No. [B] & [C]. **OFFICE ADDRESS: Office of the PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan. [A] Notice No.: COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 22/05/2026. Sl. No.: [1]. Tender No.: 74263708. Brief Description of Item:** Bogie Frame Complete for 3-Phase Co-Co Locomotives [Type WAG-9HC], Spec. No.: - CLW/MS/3/BOGIE/003 Alt-3, Drg. No.: - 1209-01.112-202 Alt- 1 [Set means Loco Set and one Loco Set consists of 02 [Two] Bogie Frames] [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity: 595.00 Set. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹5000000.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST):22/06/2026 at 11:00 AM. [B] Notice No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 23/05/2026. Sl. No.: [1]. Tender No.: 75264019. Brief Description of Item:** Central Under Frame Assly. for WAG-9HC Loco as per Spec. No. CLW/MS/3/154 Alt-3 or latest, Drg. No.1209-02.126-005. **[Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity: 358.00 Set. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹2000000.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST):17/06/2026 at 11:00 AM. [C] Notice No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162, Date: 26/05/2026. Sl. No.:[1]. Tender No.: 75264022. Brief Description of Item:** Centre Sill Complete for WAG-9HC, Drg.-No.1209-02.126-012 Alt.3 as per Specn. No. CLW/MS/3/154 Alt.3 **[Warranty Period:** 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity: 292.00 Set. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹2000000.00. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST):24/06/2026 at 11:00 AM.**

PR7/359 PCMM/CLW Chittaranjan
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E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 08 UBL 2026-27
Dated : 22.05.2026

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works.

Sl.	Name of the Work	Approx. Value
1	Hubballi Division : Gadag-Hosapete (GDG-HPT) section: Construction of Limited Height Subway in lieu of LC No. 61 KM 112/600-700 in between Bhanapur-Koppal (BNP-KBL) respectively.	Rs. 6,59,38,914/-
2	Hubballi Division : Supply of ballast at Bannikoppa (BNA) Depot in Sr.DEN/East/Hubballi Jurisdiction.	Rs. 4,99,03,000/-
3	Hubballi Division : Ballast Supply for additional loop line work at Hebsur (HBS) and Navalgund (NVD) yard in Assistant Divisional Engineer/Central/Hubballi Jurisdiction.	Rs. 1,15,28,045/-
4	Hubballi Division : Proposed Construction of Changing room & Separate wash room (6-No's) for ladies Station Masters and Points-Women at Sulebhavi (SBH), Suldhal (SUL), Sambre (SXB), Londa (LD), Vasco-da-Gama (VSG) and Sanvordem (SVM) under Senior Divisional Engineer/West/Hubballi Jurisdiction	Rs. 69,08,087/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Up to 11.00 Hours on 22-06-2026**

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in

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CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

E- TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No:**PCMM/CLW/HWH/E-Procurement/26/18,** Dated: **26/05/2026.** PCMM/CLW/HWH on behalf of the President of India invites electronic bids from established reliable manufacturer for supply of the followings. The following E-Tender's is for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/ likely suppliers are requested to look up the website www.ireps.gov.in. for detailed instructions. These are E-Tenders only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. **Sl. No.; Tender No.; Description of Stores; Quantity; Due On; Tender Cost** are as follows: **[042]; 21262814D;** Rolled Channel, 75X40X4.8 Thk x 5000 Lg Specn: IS:2062-2011 GR-E - 250 Cu Quality C Killed, Normalised. [Quantity Tolerance (+/-): 5%, Item Category: Normal, Total PO value variation Permitted: Max 8 lacs]; **As Per Tender/Document; 17/06/2026;** ₹ 0.00. **[043]; 14263001;** Led Based Twin Beam Head Light as per Specification No. RDSO/2017/EL /SPEC/0134(Rev.-04) Issued on 09.10.2025. **[Warranty Period:** 60 Months after the date of delivery]; **As Per Tender/Document; 15/06/2026;** ₹ 0.00. **[044]; 14262981;** Main Circuit Breaker (VCB) With Its Connector And 05% Extra Flexible Reinforced Rubber 27" Long Air Hose Pipe I/D 5/16" With 3/8" BSP Female Coupling Fitting at Both Ends as Manufacturing Spares to CLW Specification NO. CLW/ES/C-47/J; **As Per Tender/Document; 16/06/2026;** ₹ 0.00. **[045]; 14262749A;** CKT. Breaker Without Auxiliary Contacts (TYPE - 8) as per Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/ 0050/C; **As Per Tender/Document; 18/06/2026;** ₹ 0.00. **[046]; 14262953;** Scavenge Blower To MR Blower Including Motor (Wound with Corona Resistance Wire) To Drg. /Spec. No. (1) CLW/ES/3/0022/H & (2) SPEC/E-10/3/09 (Motor) with Amendment NOS. 01 To 06; **As Per Tender/Document; 22/06/2026;** ₹ 0.00.

PR8/360 PCMM/CLW/HOWRAH
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Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas
Government of India

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR EMPANELMENT OF HEADHUNTING AGENCIES

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF HYDROCARBONS (DGH), Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India, invites Expression of Interest from eligible and qualified head-hunting agencies.

The empanelment aims to establish a panel of specialized executive search and head-hunting agencies to assist the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) in identifying, mapping, and acquiring high-calibre technical and domain experts. This initiative aims to augment DGH's existing workforce (comprising CPSE deputations) with top-tier global talent and niche subject matter experts (SMEs).

The detailed **Notice Inviting Offers** document, containing **scope of work, technical qualification criteria, special terms of empanelment and technical bid application,** will be made available on the websites: **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app & https://dghindia.gov.in/tenders**

The **Bid Publishing Date** is **02 June 2026.** Interested agencies may visit the above websites for complete details and updates.

Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH)
OIDB Bhawan, Tower-A, Plot No. 2, Sector-73, Noida-201301
Tel.: +91-120-2472000 | E-mail: hod-hra@dghindia.gov.in

Isha Foundation pitches for farmer-driven eco movement by adopting tree-based agriculture

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: With India staring at having a weak monsoon year that may impact overall farming operations and water availability in the country, Isha Foundation — a non-profit spiritual organisation — on Friday pitched for a farmer-driven ecological movement by adopting tree-based agriculture, which, it said, may not just help farmers in getting them better farm income but also save water, revitalize rivers and improve soil health in the long run.

The Foundation also sought policy interventions from govt so that the movement, which showed results in Tamil Nadu, can be replicated across India to not just make the country drought-proof and climate-resilient but also promote sustainability and protect the overall environment.

Ahead of World Environment Day (June 5), the Foundation shared how its flagship 'Save Soil - Cauvery Calling' movement — envisioned by Sadhguru — has, so far, facilitated the plantation of 13.4 crore trees, supporting 2.6 lakh farmers in adopting tree-based agriculture.

"When policy and farmers align, India can revive its soil, replenish its water resources, and secure rural livelihoods in one bold move," said Anand Ethirajalu, project director, Save Soil - Cauvery Calling, while sharing that the movement is targeting the plantation of 1.2 crore saplings as it continues its large-scale ecological and livelihood-support initiative in 2026-27.

Asked how farmers could go for natural farming without impacting output, Valluvan, UN-awarded farmer who is associated with the movement, said he could reduce dependence on fertilisers and pesticides by adopting practices such as "minimal tillage, mulching, and cover cropping".

Sharing his success story at a press conference, he said, "I also transformed my coconut monoculture farm into a diverse, multi-layered food forest with timber, pepper, and fruit crops. These methods reduced dependence on fertilizers and pesticides while making the farm more resilient to droughts and floods. As a result, my farm income has also multiplied six times over the years."

'Recommendations largely yielded positive results in NEET-PG 2025'

▶ Continued from page 1

...It is not merely the student, it's the family too...It is so much of emotions, love, time, years of study. It is not beyond us," the Supreme Court division bench said, underscoring the need to put in place a tamper-free system to conduct exams.

Solicitor general Tushar Mehta agreed that the buck must stop somewhere and told the court that the Prime Minister was personally supervising the situation. Former Isro chairman Dr. K Radhakrishnan, who is the head of the monitoring committee constituted by SC in 2024 to suggest recommendations to strengthen NEET-UG's conduct, was also present in court, and briefed the bench about various measures taken to make the exam fool-proof.

Radhakrishnan informed the court that the committee had submitted 35 long-term recommendations and around 60 short-term recommendations, most of which had already been implemented.

The Former Isro chairman said reforms had largely yielded positive results in NEET-PG 2025, which was conducted "mostly satisfactorily" except for some issues such as power outages.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client intends to purchase the immovable property mentioned and described in the schedule below from **Mr.Terence Hubert Robert Fernandes,** son of Late Felix John Roque Fernandes and **Ms. Neena Stephanie Fernandes**, daughter of Late Felix John Roque Fernandes (hereafter referred to as "Owners"). The Owners represent that the Schedule Property is free from any encumbrance, mortgage, charge, lien or litigation and they have not entered into any sort of Agreement/MOU/Deeds etc., for sale/transfer of the Schedule Property. Any person/s having any objection, claim, right, title and/or interest with respect to the Schedule Property or any part or portion thereof by way of sale, conveyance, acquisition, partition, transfer, memorandum of understanding, exchange, mortgage, pledge, charge, encumbrance, inheritance, succession, lease, easement or demand or objections or claims of any nature whatsoever for the proposed transaction shall lodge their claim(s)/objection(s)/demand(s) with the undersigned supported by documentary evidence **within Fifteen (15) days** from the date of publication of this notice failing which, my client shall proceed with the above-mentioned transaction as though there are no claim(s)/objection(s)/demand(s) to the proposed transaction.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing No. 92 (old Municipal No. 31/3), now bearing BBMP E-khata No. 91-80-92, comprising a residential building consisting of ground and first floors, situated at Coles Road, Bengaluru on site ad-measuring 4125 square feet and is bounded on the:

East by : Property bearing No. 29;
West by : Common passage to the Rear Buildings;
North by : Coles Road; and
South by : Property bearing No. 31.

Vinay K. S., Advocate,
Vinay Kademane & Associates
307, 3rd Floor, Prestige Centre Point, No.7/49, Edward Road, Bengaluru-560001
Ph.: 080 22863885 / 49763233
email: vinay@vinaykademane.in

Place : Bengaluru
Date : 29-05-2026

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FOR CLOUD-KITCHEN 2600 Sft avlble on lease @ Pimple Saudagar, Pune. 1300 Sft each on 3/4 Flr. ITC, other big food brands on 1/2 Flr. 98500-41801

FLATS RESALE

WHITE Town Pondicherry, Skyline Apartment Romain Rolland St 2 BHK Reserved Car Parking, 2 Crore. pLAY 8904640418

OUTSIDE BANGALORE

CHIKMAGALUR

DUPLEX Villa with assured rental 1lakh per month for Sale part of 5 Star upcoming resort in Chikamagalur. Call 8088330330

MANDYA

OLD Semi Comml House for Sale, 2200 Sqft, S/F Excellent location, Close to Mysore Expressway 3Cr Nego Genuine Buyers Contact: 7026500097

MYSORE

3BHK High-end Luxury Flats, Govianu Gurikar Luxuria - Mysore, Zoo road, opposite to Gandhi park, Ready to occupy, 8088330330, www.govianu.com

TUMKUR

A) 15000SQFT TUDA approved site, Jaganathpura Tumkur B) 1200 SQFT TUDA site Belagumba Tumkur, 200mtrs from NH4. 8088330330

PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

COMMERCIAL PREMISES

FULLY Developed Clinic Available For Rent Malleshwaram with Consultation Rooms, Diagnostics, Radiology, Pharmacy, and Complete Amenities, Ideal for Medical Practitioners or Healthcare Groups. Serious Enquiries only. Contact: 99721 81837

PRIME BUSINESS CENTER NEXT TO NATIONAL MARKET Gandhinagar Bangalore -560009 Commercial Shops for RENT Call: 63664 15731 time 12-30 to 5-00 pm.

COMMERCIAL retail space sale- Sahakar nagar, tenant paying 2.5L per flr, 2500 sqft luxury one floor one unit 100% flr office space: 8088330330

COMMERCIAL retail space for sale with tenant paying 3L per flr, 3200sqft, Yeshwanthpur nr Kia showrm, one flr one unit 100% flr office space: 8088330330

SALE COMMERCIAL LAND/SHOP 840 sq.ft. (80×10.6 ft), 56/1, 3rd Main Rd, N T Pet, Blr-02. Prime wholesale hub Serious buyers 8777591526

COMMERCIAL retail space for sale at Yelahanka, with tenant paying 3L per flr, 3000 sqft luxury one floor one unit 100% flr office space sale: 8088330330

FARMS

₹1.5Lakh/cent
(1cent 436sqft)
LEPAKSHI RESORT & FARMS PLOT FOR SALE
PROPERTY WORLD BUILDERS & DEVELOPERS
9731308328/ 9743395619
LEPAKSHI FARM Plot on Installment For Sale with all Facilities in the Lepakshi Resort 9731308328/ 9743395619

INDUSTRIAL PREMISES

YESHWANTHPUR, Peenya, 5000, 10000, 25000, 50000, 100000 sqft shed with Building, Power. Suitable for Warehouse/ Light Industry/ Pharma/ Aerospace. NAIDU: 9902030789

KOLAR_JV_RENT_SALE Near New Chennai Exp Hwy 7+ Acres, Industrial Conversion. Near KGF & Krishnavaram Highway. Call: 7022334447/48

LEASE & RENT

3BHK luxury Apartment @ Bagamane Triumph sadashivanagar measuring 2233 Sq.ft with Two car parking with all facilities like swimming pool, gym, party area is for lease. Contact: 7892649089 / 9886336788.

PROPERTY WANTED

WANTED
CLEAR TITLED COMMERCIAL LAND FOR JD/ OUTRIGHT
BETWEEN 10000 To 25000 Sqft in Any Good Location, Brokers/ Landowners Call 9845035196 Or Write To zaffar@sterlingestatesindia.com

WAREHOUSES

ELECTRONIC City Beratana Agrahara 4000 sft Ware-House avlble for RENT Near PES College/Metro station. Ready to move. M:9886222290

PUNE PROPERTIES

GOA

Goa, 4BHK Villa with Garden & Scenic View @ ACRON WATERVISTA, near Calvim Bridge, Aldona. 6Cr. Negotiable. Call : 98802 96166

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business

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15 years old, Satellite TV CHANNEL, broadcasting world wide is for Sale. Potential buyers can call OWNER at +91 8925161021.

LOOKING for co-founders for an entertainment startup company. Passionate indian movie lovers preferred. Contact - 9075066560

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TEACHERS Required for Maths, Science and Social for the Kenmore school Basavanagudi, whatsapp 9901501185 email kenmoreschool@gmail.com

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SUKHSHANTHI Luxury Retirement Home, on trial stay Rs. 1,500/- Per person, per day, furnished accommodation. 3 Meals, 24X7 Nurse, Ambulance, Library. Off Sarjapur Road. Call: 9341289357 / 8884710099.

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I Alia Parveen D/o Sana Ulla Khan R/o No.20, 7th cross, JS Nagar, Saraswathipuram, Nandhini Layout, Bengaluru-560096, my name is mentioned as Safin instead of Alia Parveen vide Affidavit dt 17/4/26 Henceforth, I shall be known Alia Parveen for all Purposes Notary Sumithra Bangalore

I, VIJALAKSHMI (Old Name), W/o A M Kariyappa, residing at No 314, Soundarya Gardenia Appartment, Hmt Main Road, Near Hmt Hospital, Jalahalli, Bengaluru-560013, Karnataka, India, changed my name from VIJALAKSHMI to VIJAYALAKSHMI K vide affidavit dated 28.05.2026, sworn before Notary, Devaraja E. Henceforth, I shall be known as VIJAYALAKSHMI K for all purposes.

I, formerly known as Ajesh Binoy Valiyavallapil, S/o Ramachandran Valiyavallapil, residing at Koramangala, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560095, have changed my name to Ajesh Binoy for passport and official purposes and shall hereafter be known as Ajesh Binoy.

I Usha Bhounsley N. aged about 48 yrs W/o Mr. Purushotham N.S residing at No.223A, old No.221, Subramanyanagar Bangalore-560021 have changed my name to USHA BAI N. vide affidavit dated 26/05/2026 sworn before notary K.P.Ramesh

LOST & FOUND

MY client, Sri.Venkatarajesh Talluru, S/o.Sri.Talluru Krishnamanaidu, Residing at Purvi Symphony Flat, C1903, Gunjur Bangalore- 560087, have Lost last page of Original Sale Deed Dated 16.03.2009, Document No. BGR-1-02879/2008-09, stored in BGRD21, Book-I, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Begur, Property Situated at "NEELADRI LAYOUT" Doddathoguru Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Any Finders Please contact Devika Kumari.A., Advocate., No.1115, Ground Floor, 26th 'B' Main, 41st Cross, 9th Block Jayanagar, Bangalore- 560 069. Contact 9480620781

LOST & FOUND

PUBLIC-NOTICE
LOST: Physical debenture certificates held by Karnation Fund 1, Bengaluru, have been Lost/Misplaced. Regarding this we have given a police complaint to Karnataka Police e-Lost Reports dated 21/05/2026 have been filed for certificates relating to:
Novasatum Foods Pvt Ltd,
Brandscale Innovations Pvt Ltd, Comship Medix and Infra Pvt Ltd, Purebite Pet Foods Pvt Ltd, VRO Hospitality Pvt Ltd, Gigu Hospitality Pvt Ltd, BTB Marketing Pvt Ltd, Sterne India Pvt Ltd, Blusmart Mobility Ltd, and Blusmart Charge Pvt Ltd.
Any finder/claimant may contact mathpal@klubworks.com within 15 days of this notice, failing which duplicate debenture certificates shall be applied for.

GET NOTICED

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BUYER OF ALL TYPES OF INDUSTRIAL STEEL AND SCRAP
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Bommasandra I Hosur I Peenya
Ph: 9886222290, 9743466448
jainindustrialcorp@gmail.com

Menstrual leave is about dignity, not privilege —Aruna Lakmali

The period leave debate is far from over

The Supreme Court may have rejected mandatory menstrual leave, but the conversation around workplace policies is only growing stronger

Women stand divided on the menstrual leave debate

131st rank

Leave

Work

'A period leave policy is not only in favour of the economy'

Countries with the narrative of period leave reform

'Every state should bring in a menstrual law'

'A genuine workplace reality for many'

'Women who still have the option to take period leave will have more say in terms of a natural phase many of

'It may place women at a disadvantage as it does many grown, professional women have to in reality'

Duties and Dos Do's on menstrual leave

Herby butter, velvety chocolate dip: Edible candles blow up the food scene

Edible candles enhance dining experience

How to make an edible chocolate candle at home

In Vogue: Flavours of edibles

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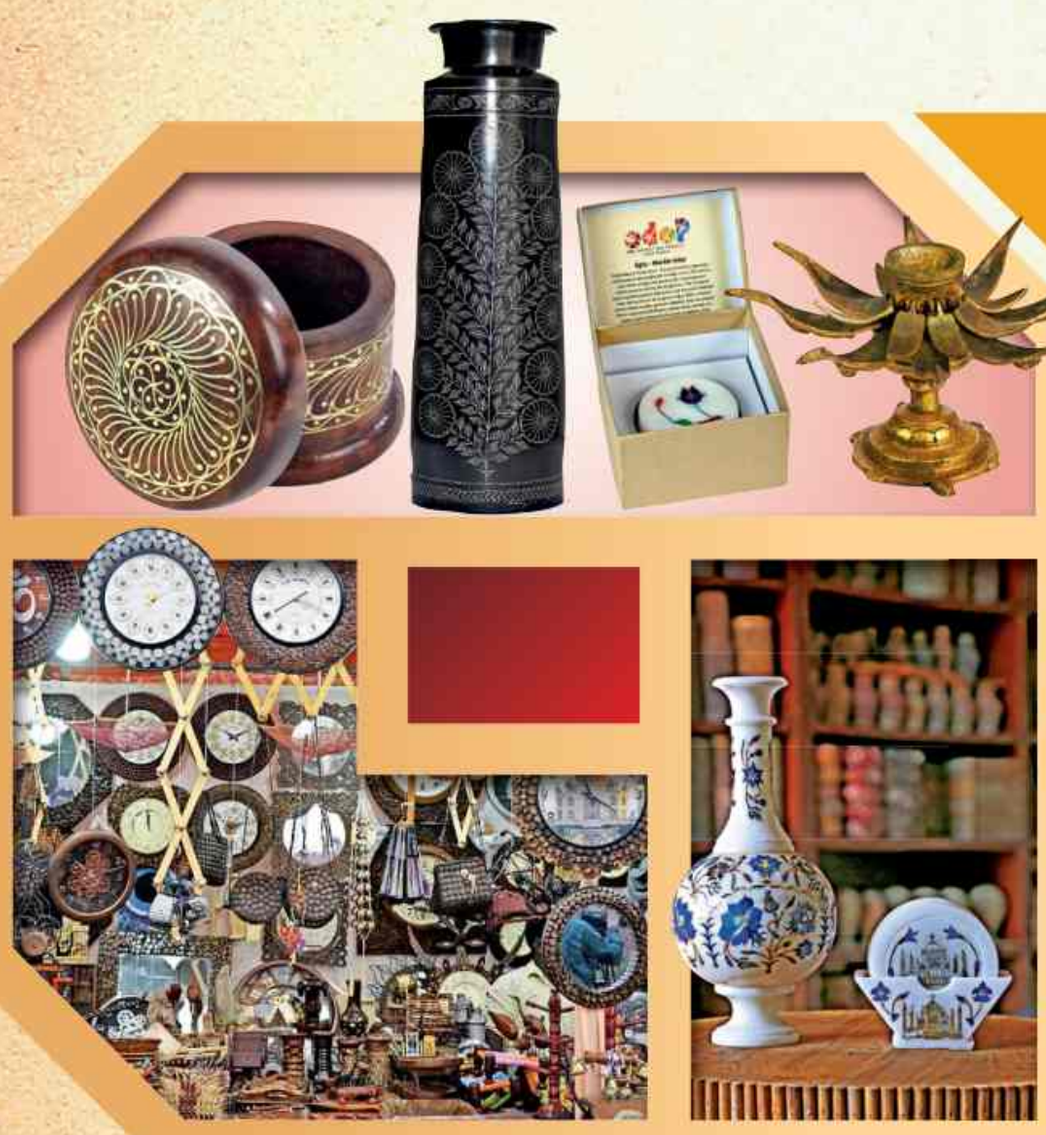
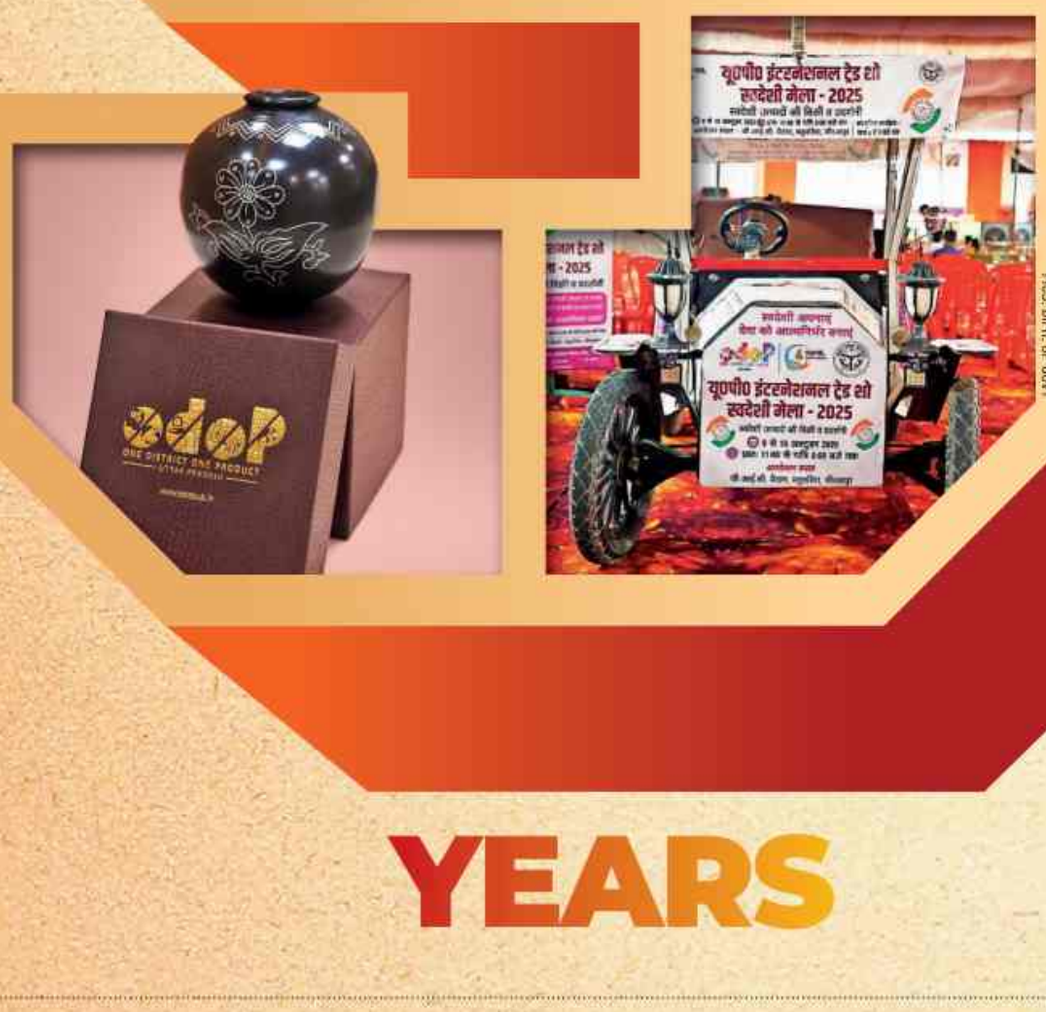




PICS: DIPR, UP GOVT

YEARS

- Established the largest MSME base in the country with more than 96 lakh units operational in UP
- Established 'One District, One Product' and placed UP's indigenous arts, crafts and products on the world map
- Promoted start-ups and entrepreneurial set-ups through investor-friendly policy frameworks
- Supported businesses and MSME units, thereby increasing state's electronics exports to ₹44,744 crore
- Established UP as a start-up hub, thereby securing A-1 position in the 'Top Performer' category of Indian government's 5th edition of 'State Start-Up Ecosystem Ranking'
- Positioned UP as India's fourth largest start-up ecosystem
- Achieved 21,000 registrations for start-ups under the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, of which, 50% start-ups are run by women
- Successfully established 76 incubators and 8 unicorns
- Created investor-friendly and single-window clearance portals like Nivesh Mitra for easy online submissions and approvals for entrepreneurs

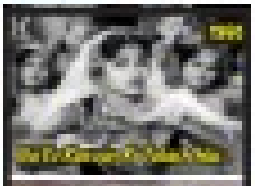
GOLDEN ERA OF CRAFTSMANSHIP AND COMMERCE

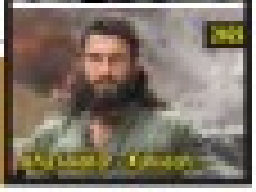
Over the past nine years, Uttar Pradesh has strengthened its MSME ecosystem through policy reforms, easier credit access, digital platforms, and infrastructure support. Initiatives such as streamlined clearances, expanded credit guarantees, and targeted skilling programmes have enabled small enterprises to scale operations, formalise businesses, and integrate into wider supply chains, significantly enhancing productivity and resilience across sectors. Meanwhile, the One District One Product (ODOP) scheme has further amplified this momentum by promoting traditional crafts and local specialities. By improving branding, market linkages, and export readiness, ODOP has boosted demand, generated employment, and revived regional industries, contributing meaningfully to the state's economic growth and livelihoods.

READER ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

Delhi Times PRESENTS

RAJSHRI'S MUSICAL, REIMAGINED FOR 2026





What if the ever-playful, still-case-old song-a-long? Rajshri's iconic Indian cinema that, by reintroducing Samuel Sridhar's Rajshri Records' Splendour, a Mumbai-big wedding theatre. With these, the film has played on-site-world-wide-only Bollywood playlists.

SO WE WONDERED: What if Rajshri's productions could all be today, told as reimagined classics? We asked AI to fix Sanskrit-first elements of non-musical love stories, love anthems, elaborate wedding sequences, and answer one simple question: What if these films were made as they would be today? If we can make a modern-day Rajshri Productions? We are calling it Apna Aangan.

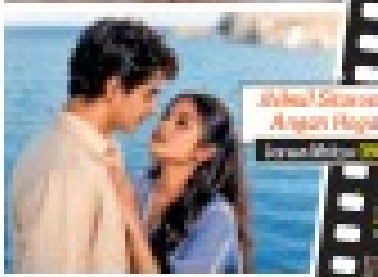
STAR CAST: Shaan Khalkar, Sara Arjun, Ibrahim Ali Khan, Kharvari, Pankaj Tripathi, Mona Singh, Gulzaj Dua, Neena Gupta

ACT 1 - RETURNING HOME

Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge (1995)

Woh Woh Koyal... (1989)

ACT 2 - THE CELEBRATION



Aankhon Mein Tera Hi Sapne... (2021)

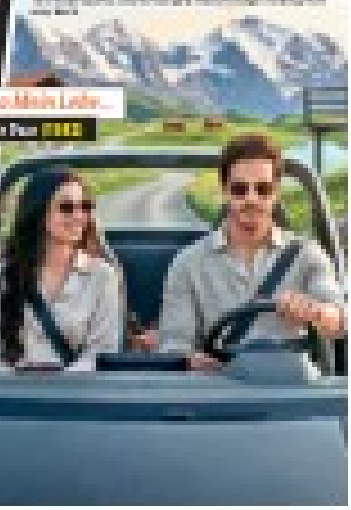
ACT 2-1 - THE ROMANCE

Kaisi Yeh Yaariaan (2015)

ACT 3 - THE FRACTURE

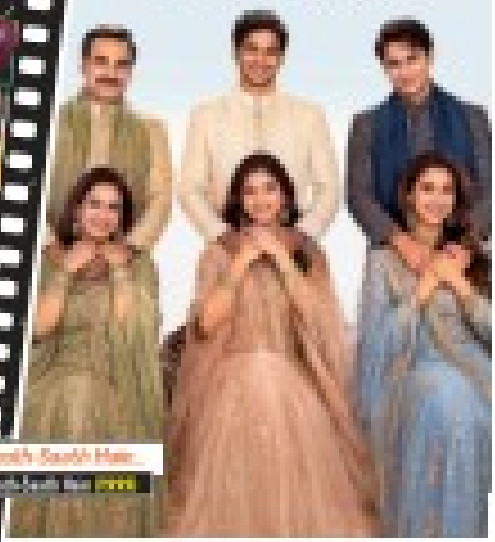
Hum Saath Saath Hain (1999)

ACT 4 - WHAT MUST REMAIN



Kaun Dilon Mein Leke... (1992)

CLIMAX - THE FAMILY FINDS ITS WAY BACK



TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS:TIRUPATI
MARKETING DEPARTMENT

e-Procurement Tender Notice

e-Tenders were invited for supply of **1) 2,00,000 Nos of Britania Good Day Cashew Almond Cookies (Rs. 5/-), 1,00,000 Nos of Britania Good Day Butter Cookies (Rs. 5/-) and Parle Monaco (Rs. 10/-) 2) 3,20,000 Kgs of Cane Jaggery or Cane gur** through e-tenders to the Marketing Department, T.T.Devasthanams. For Tender notice and tender details log on to the **web site http:// www.tirumala.org and https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in. For further details contact phone numbers: 0877-2264079, 2264555, FAX No: 0877-2264554.**

TTD-40021(31)/1/2026 - PRO SEC (Adv. No 63). Date - 29.05.2026 **Executive Officer**

thsti BRIC-Translational Health Science and Technology Institute BRIC

(An Institute of the Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council, Govt. of India)
NCR Biotech Science Cluster, 3rd Milestone, Faridabad – Gurugram Expressway, P.O. Box No. 04, Faridabad – 121001

Recruitment Notice no. THS/RN/07/2026

Applications are invited to fill up the following regular position:-

S.No.	Name of the post	Pay Level	Number of post
1.	Senior Manager	13	01 (UR)

For details, please visit our website: www.thsti.res.in
Last date for submission of online applications is 20th June, 2026.

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ASTROPHYSICS
(An autonomous body under Department of Science & Technology, Government of India) Koramangala, Bengaluru – 560 034

Advt. No.IIA/03/2026-27 DATED 06.05.2026.

Online applications are invited from eligible candidates for the following regular posts at Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore and its field stations:

1) Upper Division Clerk

For details, please visit: **https://www.iiap.res.in/iia_jobs/**

Administrative Officer

Defence Research and Development Organization
Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics
CV Raman Nagar, Bengaluru-560093, Karnataka

Walk-In Interview for Junior Research Fellowship

Post: JRF; 01 vacancy
Discipline: Computer Science/Computer Engineering
Date of Interview: 04 July 2026
Venue: CAIR, Bangalore

For further details regarding qualifications and other relevant information, please logon to DRDO Official website (**https://www.drdo.gov.in**)

CBC 10301/11/0019/2627

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE COURT OF THE
THE COMMERCIAL COURT AT ASANSOL
Misc. Arbitration (Commercial) Suit No. 05 of 2025
Petitioner : Steel Authority of India Limited
-Versus-
Opposite Party : 1. M/S Spacetech Equipments and Structurals Pvt. Ltd.
2. Times Enterprises
Having office at Alpha Fab Nagmal Chawl 313-315 CST Road Vidya Nagari Marg Kalina Santa Cruz(E) Mumbai - 400095

Whereas, Steel Authority of India Limited has instituted the aforesaid case against M/S Spacetech Equipments and Structurals Pvt. Ltd. and Times Enterprises.

You, Times Enterprises is hereby directed to appear before the court for selves or through a lawyer and to file written Objection against pletitioner's claim within 30 (thirty day) from the date of publication and to answer all material question in this case. It is to be mentioned in this regard that written objection by the opposite party no.1 namely M/S Spacetech Equipments and Structurals Pvt. Ltd. has been filed against the claim of the petitioner.

In case of your being absent on the date fixed the case will be decided ex-parte against you.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Court on 14th day of May, 2026.

Advertisement No: 26-27/Estate/08

BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS
Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Govt. of India. Manak Bhavan, 9, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi- 110002

INDICATIVE ADVERTISEMENT NO. 01/2026/ESTT/ (DEPUTATION)

Bureau of Indian Standards invites applications from the eligible serving employees of Central Govt. / State Govt. / Union Territory Govt. / Statutory / Autonomous Body for filling up of the vacancies in the post of Section Officer on **Deputation Basis** as details given below:

Name of post	No. of vacancies
Level-7 (Rs 44900-142400)	20

How to Apply:
1. The last date of receipt of application is 45 days from the date of release of Advertisement in the Employment News / Rozgar Samachar.
2. Please refer the detailed advertisement available under the tab "Career Opportunities" at home page of the BIS website: **www.bis.gov.in**

(Shoaib Akhter)
Director (Establishment)
Date: 13 May 2026

CBC 08103/11/0003/2627

बी ई एम एल BEML LIMITED
(CIN: L35202KA1964GOI001530)
(A Govt. of India Mini Ratna Company under Ministry of Defence)
Chittod Office Complex, M.P. Nagar, Zone-1, Bhopal-462011, Madhya Pradesh, India.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e tender through BEML SRM Portal

BEML LIMITED, Bhopal invites Public Tender-E mode (TWO Bid System) for civil works tender ref.: 6300040573 for Engineering, Procurement & Construction pertaining to establishment of Rail Coach Factory near Umaria Village, Obaidullaganj, District- Raisen, Madhya Pradesh (India) PIN code 464993 on EPC Mode.

EMD amount : Rs. 6,00,00,000.00

Last date & time for submission of bids : 09.07.2026 at 13:00 Hrs

Further details of tender can be obtained from following website:
https://www.bemlindia.in/active-tenders/ »»RO DO Marketing » Ref No.: 6300040573»» Tender Document
SRM Portal: https://bemlepci.bemlindia.in:50001/irj/portal
Bidders are advised to visit above websites frequently for any corrigendum, extension, etc.

Sd/- Sr. Manager

CRPF Montessori School, GC CRPF, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560064. Ph-080-29567730
WALK IN INTERVIEW

Name of Post	Number of Vacancies	Salary	Date of Walk in Interview	Eligibility Conditions for Teacher
Teacher	12	Rs. 14500/-	03/06/2026 1000 Hrs	1. First preference . Nursery trained teachers who are matriculate and above having Nursery trained Diploma from a recognized Training Institution 2. Second preference. JBT / trained graduates /trained post-graduates.
Nanny	12	Rs. 9500/-		----------

Secretary, Montessori School, CRPF

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL, KOTA
(CBSE AFFILIATED)
REQUIRES PRINCIPAL (TERM BASED)

Army Public School Located at	Upto Class	Application be forwarded to
Army Public School Mala Road, Kota (Raj) - 324001 Email : armypublicschoolkota@gmail.com Tele No : (L) 0744-2773195 (M) 9529344061	XII (Senior Secondary School)	Chairman Army Public School Kota Mala Road Kota (Raj) - 324001

1.For Eligibility, Qualification, Age and other details visit the Website of APS Kota **(www.apskota.in)**.
2.Last date for receipt of application is **30 Jun 2026.**

(NO TA/DA ADMISSIBLE)

Last Batch Before Schools Reopen

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Entrepreneurship Program

Batch Starts 6th June	Classes 6 & Above	20 Modules & Learning Kit
Online Program 5-Week	Sessions On Weekend	1 Year Access Class Recordings

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A 5-Week Live Program Where Students Build, Validate & Pitch Their Own Startup Idea

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- **Project Showcase** on ET Website
- Compete for **₹5 Lack Scholarship Pool**
- **Startup Visit** for Top Students
- Pitch Idea at **ET Soonicorn Summit**

5-Week Learning Program

01 Problem & Idea Discovery
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03 Business Model Strategy
04 Brand & Go-to-Market
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ET THE ECONOMIC TIMES

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NCSM Campus, Building II, 8th Floor, 33, Block - GN, Sector - V, Bidhan Nagar, Kolkata - 700091, India. Phone: 033 2357 6041, Website: www.cmdncsm.in, www.ncsm.gov.in

CORRIGENDUM No. 1 FOR SITC OF HUMANOID ROBOT FOR PHASE 2 WORK OF GALLERY-G100 AT DR. APJ ABDUL KALAM SCIENCE CITY, PATNA

Ref. No. : CMD 007.12.74 (WORKS)/26-27/08 Dated 21.05.2026

For the SITC of Humanoid Robot for Phase 2 work, Gallery-G100 at Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Science City, Patna, the last date for submission of bids has been extended till **22nd June, 2026, 06:00 PM IST**. For further details, please visit CMD website.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NATUROPATHY
Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India
'Bapu Bhavan', Matoshree Ramabai Ambedkar Road, (Tadiwala Road), Pune - 411001, Maharashtra
टेलीफोन : 020 - 26059682/3
Email : tatc.admission@gmail.com Website : www.ninpune.ayush.gov.in

Admission Notice

Free One Year Treatment Assistant Training Course (TATC) in Naturopathy and Yoga: Walk-in Interview

Eligibility:
- **10th Pass (Preference will be given to candidates with +2 in any stream)**
- **Minimum Age Limit: 18 Years**
- **Course Fee: Nil (Free Course)**
- **Stipend: Rs.8000/- Per Month**
- **Date & Time of interview: 18 & 19 June, 2026 (between 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)**
- **Last date for Submission of Application: 15th June, 2026**
  For further details, please visit official website: www.ninpune.ayush.gov.in

cbc17211/11/0003/2627 **Director(I/c)**

सीएसआईआर – केंद्रीय विद्युतरसायन अनुसंधान संस्थान
CSIR • CENTRAL ELECTROCHEMICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
कारैकुड़ी / Karaikudi-630 003.

Notification No. PS – 05/2026

ENGAGEMENT OF PROJECT PERSONNEL

An interview will be conducted at **CSIR-CECRI Chennai Unit, Taramani** on **11th and 12th June 2026** for engagement to the positions of **Principal Project Associate** (01 No.), **Senior Project Associate** (02 Nos.), **Project Associate-II** (01 No.), **Project Associate-I** (12 Nos.) and **Project Assistant-II** (08 Nos.) against various projects on purely temporary basis at CSIR-CECRI Chennai Unit.

Date of Commencement of ONLINE application: 30.05.2026 (10.00 A.M.)
Last Date for submission of ONLINE application: 08.06.2026 (05.00 P.M.)

For complete details and application, please visit the opportunity page of CECRI website **(https://www.cecri.res.in/)**

प्रशासनिक अधिकारी / **Administrative Officer**

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
www.rbi.org.in

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक द्वारा विनियमित संस्थाओं, के विरुद्ध शिकायतों का निवारण

रिज़र्व बैंक – एकीकृत ओम्बड्समैन योजना (आरबी–आईओएस)

- रिज़र्व बैंक ने अपनी सभी विनियमित संस्थाओं को उनके ग्राहकों से प्राप्त शिकायतों का समाधान करने हेतु अपने स्तर पर एक व्यवस्था बनाए रखने का आदेश दिया है, जिसे विनियमित संस्थाओं का आंतरिक शिकायत निवारण तंत्र माना जाता है।
- रिज़र्व बैंक ने, रिज़र्व बैंक – एकीकृत ओम्बड्समैन योजना, 2021 (आरबी–आईओएस) के माध्यम से अपनी विनियमित संस्थाओं द्वारा प्रदान की गई सेवाओं में कमियों से संबंधित ग्राहक शिकायतों के समाधान के लिए एक त्वरित और नि:शुल्क वैकल्पिक शिकायत निवारण तंत्र भी स्थापित किया है।
- बैंकों, गैर–बैंकिंग वित्तीय कंपनियों (एनबीएफसी), भुगतान प्रणाली प्रतिभागियों (पीएसपी) और साख सूचना कंपनियों (सीआईसी) को शिकायत निवारण तंत्र के तहत विनियमित संस्थाओं के रूप में माना जाता है।
- किसी भी विनियमित संस्था के विरुद्ध सभी शिकायतों के लिए आरबी–आईओएस ''एक राष्ट्र एक ओम्बड्समैन'' दृष्टिकोण अपनाता है। अत: शिकायतकर्ता के लिए अब यह जानना आवश्यक नहीं है कि उसे किस ओम्बड्समैन योजना/कार्यालय के तहत ओम्बड्समैन के पास शिकायत दर्ज करानी चाहिए।
- आरबी–आईओएस के अंतर्गत नहीं आने वाली विनियमित संस्थाओं के विरुद्ध शिकायतों का समाधान भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक के उपभोक्ता शिक्षण और संरक्षण कक्षों (सीईपीसी) द्वारा किया जाता है।
- आरबी–आईओएस और सीईपीसी के दायरे में आने वाली संस्थाओं की सूची https://cms.rbi.org.in पर देखी जा सकती है।

अगर आपको शिकायत हो तो क्या करें?

आप विनियमित संस्थाओं के विरूद्ध उसकी शाखा में या शिकायत निवारण पोर्टल पर ऑनलाइन या उसकी वेबसाइट पर बताए गए किसी अन्य तरीके से शिकायत दर्ज करा सकते हैं। शिकायत की पावती प्राप्त करें या संदर्भ संख्या सुरक्षित रखें।

आरबीआई ओम्बड्समैन से संपर्क कब करें?

आप निम्नलिखित मामलों में आरबीआई ओम्बड्समैन से संपर्क कर सकते हैं:
- **विनियमित संस्थाओं से 30 दिन के भीतर कोई उत्तर प्राप्त नहीं होने पर** – विनियमित संस्थाओं को की गई आपकी शिकायत की तारीख से एक वर्ष और 30 दिन के भीतर कभी भी।
- **विनियमित संस्थाआ से प्राप्त उत्तर असंतोषजनक है** – संबंधित विनियमित संस्थाओं से उत्तर प्राप्त होने के एक वर्ष के भीतर कभी भी।

ध्यान दें:
- आरबी–आईओएस में निर्दिष्ट शिकायत फार्म के अनुसार सभी अपेक्षित विवरण/जानकारी शिकायत में शामिल होनी चाहिए।
- शिकायत किसी अन्य मंच (जैसे न्यायालय) में निपटाई गई /लंबित नहीं होनी चाहिए या आरबीआई ओम्बड्समैन द्वारा पहले निपटाई नहीं गई हो।
- **विनियमित संस्था से संपर्क किए बिना आरबीआई ओम्बड्समैन के पास सीधे शिकायत दर्ज कराने पर उसे अस्वीकार किया जा सकता है।**

आरबीआई के पास शिकायत कैसे दर्ज करें?

विनियमित संस्थाओं के विरुद्ध कोई भी शिकायत निम्न किसी भी माध्यम द्वारा दर्ज की जा सकती है:
- आरबीआई के शिकायत प्रबंध प्रणाली (सीएमएस) पोर्टल https://cms.rbi.org.in के माध्यम से ऑनलाइन।
- आरबी–आईओएस के अनुबंध में निर्दिष्ट फॉर्म में भौतिक शिकायत (पत्र / डाक) ''केंद्रीकृत प्राप्ति और प्रसंस्करण केंद्र, चौथी मंजिल, भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक, सेक्टर –17, सेंट्रल विस्टा, चंडीगढ़ – 160017'' को प्रेषित की जा सकती है।

आरबीआई के पास शिकायत दर्ज करने के बारे में अधिक जानकारी कैसे प्राप्त करें?

अधिक जानकारी के लिए आप आरबीआई संपर्क केंद्र के टोल–फ्री नंबर 14448 पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं। इंटरएक्टिव वॉयस रिस्पांस सिस्टम (आईवीआरएस) युक्त संपर्क केंद्र 24x7 उपलब्ध है, जबकि संपर्क केंद्र कर्मियों से अंग्रेजी, हिंदी और दस क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं (असमिया, बंगाली, गुजराती, कन्नड़, मलयालम, मराठी, ओडिया, पंजाबी, तेलुगु और तमिल) में बात करने की सुविधा राष्ट्रीय अवकाशों को छोड़कर सोमवार से शनिवार सुबह 8:00 बजे से रात 10:00 बजे के बीच उपलब्ध है।

अधिक जानकारी के लिए

कृपया देखें:
भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक–एकीकृत ओम्बड्समैन योजना, 2021 पर अक्सर पूछे जाने वाले प्रश्न–
https://www.rbi.org.in/hindi/Scripts/Faqs.aspx?did=56
या
सीएमएस पोर्टल–https://cms.rbi.org.in

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
RISHIKESH-249203

ADMISSION NOTICE

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Rishikesh invites applications for Entrance Examinations leading to admission in Ph.D. Course at AIIMS, Rishikesh for July 2026 Session.

Important: For detailed information etc. please go through this link: **https://aiimsrishikesh.edu.in/a1_1/?page_id=2926**. All applicants are required to visit institute website (www.aiimsrishikesh.edu.in) regularly as all subsequent Corrigendum/Addendum/Updates will only be uploaded on website.

Executive Director
AIIMS Rishikesh

Petronet LNG Limited

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)
FOR SELECTION OF CONTRACTOR FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING OF ANODES & ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENTS AT JETTIES AT PETRONET LNG LIMITED, DAHEJ

Interested parties are requested to visit our website **www.petronetlng.in** for detailed eligibility criteria along with other necessary details for issuance of Tender document.

Note: PLL reserves the right not to issue the tender document and / or accept or reject any or all the bids at any stage of the process and/or modify the process without assigning any reasons on its sole discretion. No separate notification shall be issued in press. Bidders are requested to visit the website regularly to keep themselves updated.

Sr. Manager (C&P)
PETRONET LNG LIMITED
GIDC Industrial Estate, Plot No. 7/A, Dahej, Taluka Vagra, Distt. Bharuch 392130, Dahej, Gujarat, Tel No: 02641-670232/233/235/231
E-mail id:- **c&p_dahej@petronetlng.in, sumitkumar@petronetlng.in**

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
www.rbi.org.in

Redressal of complaints against entities regulated by RBI

Reserve Bank – Integrated Ombudsman Scheme (RB-IOS)

- The Reserve Bank has mandated all its regulated entities to have a mechanism at their end to resolve the complaints received by them from their customers, which is considered as the Internal Grievance Redress Mechanism of regulated entities.
- The Reserve Bank has also put in place an expeditious and cost-free Alternate Grievance Redress Mechanism for resolution of customer complaints relating to deficiencies in services rendered by its regulated entities through the Reserve Bank – Integrated Ombudsman Scheme, 2021 (RB-IOS).
- Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFC), Payment System Participants (PSP) and Credit Information Companies (CIC) are considered as regulated entities under the Grievance Redress Mechanism.
- The RB-IOS adopts a "One Nation One Ombudsman" approach for all complaints against any regulated entities. It is therefore no longer necessary for a complainant to identify under which Ombudsman scheme/office, he/she should file a complaint with the Ombudsman.
- The complaints against regulated entities not covered under the RB-IOS are handled at Consumer Education and Protection Cells (CEPCs) for resolution.
- The list of regulated entities covered under the ambit of RB-IOS and CEPC can be accessed by visiting https://cms.rbi.org.in

What to do if you have a complaint?

You can lodge complaint against the regulated entity at its branch or through online in the grievance redressal portal or any other mode as mentioned in its website. Get acknowledgement or save the reference number of the complaint.

When to approach the RBI Ombudsman?

You can approach the RBI Ombudsman, in case:
- **No reply is received from the regulated entity within 30 days -** Anytime within one year and 30 days from the date of your complaint to regulated entity.
- **Reply received from the regulated entity is unsatisfactory -** Anytime within one year of receipt of reply from the concerned regulated entity.

Note:
- The complaint should contain all requisite details / information as per the complaint form prescribed in the RB-IOS.
- The complaint should not have been dealt with / pending with any other forum (like Courts) or dealt earlier by the RBI Ombudsman.
- **Filing complaint directly with RBI Ombudsman, without approaching the regulated entity, may lead to its rejection.**

How to lodge a complaint with RBI?

Complaint against the regulated entity can be filed through any of the following modes:
- Online through the Complaint Management System (CMS) portal of RBI at https://cms.rbi.org.in
- Physical complaint (letter / post) in the form as specified in Annexure in the RB-IOS to "Centralized Receipt and Processing Centre, 4th floor, Reserve bank of India Sector-17, Central Vista, Chandigarh – 160017"

How to know more about lodging a complaint with RBI?

For more information, you can approach RBI Contact Centre facility with Toll-free Number: 14448. The contact center with Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) is available 24x7, while the facility to connect to Contact Centre personnel is available from Monday to Saturday except National Holidays, between 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM for English, Hindi and ten regional languages (Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Odia, Punjabi, Telugu and Tamil).

For more information

Please Visit:
FAQs on RB- IOS, 2021 -
https://www.rbi.org.in/scripts/FS_FAQs.aspx?fn=2745
Or
CMS Portal - https://cms.rbi.org.in/

From the moment Ashutosh started narrating, I was hooked: Aamir Khan

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JAWAHARLAL NEHRU PORT AUTHORITY
(ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT)

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ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 45001:2018, ISO 27001:2013 CERTIFIED

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
For operation management and commercialization of Shiv Samarth Smarak

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority requires interested parties for operation, management and commercialization of Shiv Samarth Smarak located at Dastan Phata, Jasai. The parties may view the EOI documents displayed at the JNPA's website **www.jnport.gov.in** through **Vendor Info > Tenders > E-publish > 'Click Here'** link. **The EOI documents may be viewed and submitted offline till 25.06.2026 till 13:00 Hrs.**

General Manager (A) & Secy.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identification No.: U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in (Contact 9646118773)

Short Term Tender Enquiry No.: QQ-4038/26-27/PO-T/CE-MM

Chief Purchase Officer/MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd Floor, Multi Storey Building, The Mall, PSPCL invites **Short Term** E-tender of 35000 Nos., Three Phase, 25 KVA, ISI Marked, EEL-2/Star-2, oil immersed, CRGO/Amorphous core, Aluminium wound, distribution transformers complete with fittings as per PSPCL specifications & conforming to IS 1180 Part-1 (2014) & IS 2026 (with latest amendments). For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 30.05.2026 onwards.**

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

C598/26, DPR/Pb.:1079/12/2026-27/11717

ಡಾ. ಬಾಬು ಜಗಜೀವನ ರಾಂ ಚರ್ಮ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ

ನಂ.32 ಡಾ. ಬಾಬು ಜಗಜೀವನ ರಾಂ ಲಿಡ್ಕರ್ ಭವನ, ಮಿಲ್ಲರ್ಸ್ ಟ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಬಂಡ್ ಏರಿಯಾ, ವಸಂತನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560052, ದೂರವಾಣಿ ನಂ. 080 2228895 , E-mail- lidkar2018@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಲಿಡ್ಕರ್/ಆಡಳಿತ/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29.05.2026

ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸುವಿಕೆ (EOI) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಡಾ. ಬಾಬು ಜಗಜೀವನ ರಾಂ ಚರ್ಮೋದ್ಯಮ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಗಮ ನಿಯಮಿತ (ಲಿಡ್ಕರ್) ವತಿಯಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ವಿವಿಧ ಗುರುತಿಸಲಾದ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾದರಕ್ಷೆ ದುರಸ್ತಿ ವೃತ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿರುವ ಚಿಮ್ಮಾರರಿಗಾಗಿ ಉಕ್ಕಿನ ನಿರ್ಮಿತ "ಪಾದುಕೆ ಕುಟೀರ"ಗಳ ವಿನ್ಯಾಸ, ತಯಾರಿಕೆ, ಪೂರೈಕೆ, ಅಳವಡಿಕೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾರ್ಯಾರಂಭ ಮತ್ತು ಪಾದರಕ್ಷೆ ಉಪಕರಣಗಳ ಕಿಟ್ ಪೂರೈಕೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಆಸಕ್ತ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸುವಿಕೆಗಾಗಿ (Expression of Interest-EOI for "Design, Fabrication, Supply, Erection and Commissioning of Steel Fabricated Paduke Kuteera for Cobblers along with Footwear Toolkit at Various Identified Locations across Karnataka") ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ (KPPP Portal) ಮೂಲಕ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

1	Tender Reference No & Date	No.LIDKAR/2026-27/PREQUAL_TENDER_NUMBER4 Dt.29.05.2026
2	Pre-Bid Meeting Date & Time	Dt: 03/06/2026 @ 11.30 Hrs.
3	Last date &Time for submission of Queries	Dt: 02/06/2026 @11.30 Hrs.
4	Last Date & Time for submission of EOI	Dt: 22/06/2026 @17.30 Hrs.
5	Date & Time of opening of the technical bid	Dt: 24/06/2026 @17.30 Hrs.
6	Technical Presentation & Demonstration	Dt: 26/06/2026 @11.30 Hrs.
7	Address for Communication	Office of the Managing Director. No.32, Dr.Babu Jagjivan Ram Lether Industries Limited, Lidkar Bhavan, No.32, Millars Tank Bund Area, Vasanthanagar, Bangalore-560052

ಆಸಕ್ತ ಮತ್ತು ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ KPPP ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿ Expression of Interest - EOI ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು, ನಿಗದಿತ ದಿನಾಂಕದೊಳಗೆ ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. **ಸದರಿ ಜಾಹೀರಾತನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.05.2026 ರಂದು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿ ಅದರ ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಚೇರಿಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸುವಂತೆ ಕೋರಿದೆ.**

ಸಹಿ/-
ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ದಾವ್ರ/893/ಎಸ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಸಿ/2026-27

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

PUBLIC NOTICE

After completion of New line works in Pavagada - Doddahalli (Tumakuru District of Karnataka) section of Tumakuru - Rayadurga New Line, a speed trials will be conducted by South Western Railway **from 27.05.2026.** Further, as part of statutory inspection by Commissioner of Railway Safety, Southern Circle, a Speed trial by Special Train will be conducted in the section on **30.05.2026** and during the speed trial, trains will run at a speed in excess of **120 km/h** on the newly laid New Railway line and subsequently regular train services will be introduced on this Railway line. Public are hereby advised to be cautious and not to trespass the Railway line, which will endanger the lives. Trespassers are also liable for prosecution, which may please be noted.

Chief Administrative Officer/Construction
Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/164/AAS/PRB/SWR/2026-27

Download the **RailOne** app for easy ticket booking, PNR status, and more railway services.

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

e-Tenders against open tenders are invited by Divisional Railway Manager (Engg), S.E.Railway, Chakradharpur for & on behalf of the President of India for the following works. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Sl. No. & Tender Notice No.; Name of work; Tender value; EMD: (1) CKP-CENTRAL-26-27-12, dated 27.05.2026;** Manufacturing, supply and stacking of 55,000 Cum machine crushed Track Ballast conforming to RDSO Specification No. IRS-GE-1 with latest correction slips issued up to the date of inviting tender, at all yards, bridge approaches and other nominated locations as directed by the Engineer-in-Charge, in the section between Rajkharsawan and Gua under Chakradharpur Division; ₹ 10,21,74,600/-; ₹ 20,43,500/-. **(2) CKP-EAST-26-27-20, dated 27.05.2026;** Augmentation of water supply arrangement at Adityapur (ADTP) Railway Station; ₹ 7,96,53,955.55; ₹ 15,93,100/-. **(3) CKP-EAST-26-27-12, dated 27.05.2026;** Construction of yard drains and drain cum retaining wall of various sizes in TATA yard (All yards including bulb line); ₹ 12,19,63,101.35; ₹ 24,39,300/-. **(4) CKP-WEST-26-27-11, dated 27.05.2026;** Through Ballast Renewal along with deep screening under the jurisdiction of Sr. Divisional Engineer (West)/Chakradharpur (2nd call); ₹ 8,09,87,310.73; ₹ 16,19,800/-. **(5) CKP-WEST-26-27-10, dated 27.05.2026;** (i) Construction of Parcel office and RMS building including associated Electrical works (Composite work) at Jharsuguda Railway Station (ii) Civil Engineering work in connection with Interlocking of Non-interlocked Engineering Level Crossing Gate Nos. B11 (Bondamunda Yard), RB-I (Rourkela-Kuarmunda) and RB-I (Link C-DMF) in Chakradharpur Division; ₹ 8,01,35,280.75; ₹ 16,02,700/-. **Cost of Tender Form :** 0.00 for each. **Date of Opening :** 23.06.2026 for sl. no. 1, 19.06.2026 for sl. no. 2, 3 & 4 and 18.06.2026 for sl. no. 5. The tender can be viewed at website **http://www.ireps.gov.in** The tenderer/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered under on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. **Note:** e-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. (Authority–Railway Board's letter No. 2020/CE-I/CT/3E/GCC/Policy dtd. 16.07.2020). **(PR-245)**

The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam-691 583
Phone: 0476-2651215 to 2651217, e-mail: md@kmml.com, URL: www.kmml.com

TENDER NOTICE

For more details please visit E-Tendering Portal, https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmml.com

Sl No.	Tender ID	Items
1	2026_KMML_852422_1	Global tender for the supply of Synthetic Rutile (BI)

Chavara 29.05.2026 Sd/- Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

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SDS TRC & RAJIV GANDHI INSTITUTE OF CHEST DISEASES

(An Autonomous Institute, Government of Karnataka)
Reg. No. SOR/BLU/DR/671/09-10 dated: 23-09-2009
(Super speciality Referral Hospital & Post Graduate Institute)

No. SDS/TND/05/2026-27 Date : 29-05-2026

Tender Notification

Tenders are invited through e-procurement portal-2 for the services of 1. Procurement of Drugs and Disposables and Other items 2. Supply of Liquid Medical Oxygen 3. Maintenance AMC for MGPS pipeline system 4. Providing Security Services 5. Providing Manpower Services. Tender document is available in KPP Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from **30-05-2026** onwards

Sd/- Director
SDS TRC & RGICD
Bengaluru-560029

DIPR/CP/887/Sreshta/2026-27

SANJAY GANDHI POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Raebareli Road, Lucknow-226014 (U.P.) Ph.: 0522-2494038
E-mail: jdmm@sgpgi.ac.in, jdmmsgpgims@gmail.com

PRE-BID MEETING NOTICE

For the establishment of Centre of Excellence for advanced minimally invasive and robotic surgeries under Quaternary Healthcare Services, SGPGIMS proposes procurement of Surgical Robotic Systems with Dual Console.

Considering the highly specialized, rapidly evolving, technology-intensive, and globally dynamic nature of robotic surgical platforms, and in order to ensure transparency, fairness, wider and healthy competition, optimal technical standardization, and formulation of clinically relevant technical specifications, a Pre-Bid Meeting is being convened on 09-06-2026 (Tuesday) at 11:00 AM in the Committee Room, 3rd Floor, Administrative Block, Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences.

The objective of the pre-bid meeting is to obtain complete stakeholder participation from Manufacturers/Authorized Importers/Indian Subsidiaries/OEM representatives regarding technical inputs and suggestions of currently available as well as globally emerging robotic surgical technologies and associated infrastructure requirements.

The draft of tentative technical specifications, in line with the broad institutional requirements, are available for perusal on the Institute website: https://sgpgims.org.in/

All Manufacturers/Authorized Importers/Indian Subsidiaries/OEM representatives are requested to participate in the aforesaid pre-bid meeting as per the scheduled date and time with complete technical details of their current and emerging line of products to facilitate formulation of final technical specifications in accordance with the latest state-of-the-art technology available globally and in the best interest of patient care, academics, training and institutional growth.

Advt. No. I/17/JDMM/2026-27 DIRECTOR

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020

CORRIGENDUM

With reference to the e-Auction Notification No. BDA/EM/e-Auction/T-04/2026-27 dated 22. 05.2026 published in this newspaper on 23.05.2026 the Date of Commencement of Live Bidding for Sites of **Sl. No. 1 to 40 should be read as from 15.06.2026, 11.00 A.M. to 16.06.2026 up to 5.00 PM** instead of from 08.06.2026, 11.00 A.M. to 09.06.2026, up to 5.00 PM as published and for Sites of **Sl. No. 41 to 80** should be read as from **16.06.2026, 11.00 A.M. to 17.06.2026 up to 5.00 PM** instead of from 09.06.2026, 11.00 A.M. to 10.06.2026 up to 5.00 PM as published. There are no changes in the other terms and conditions of the Auction Notice. BDA regrets for the inconvenience.

Sd/- Engineer Member

BENGALURU NORTH CITY CORPORATION

Office of the Executive Engineer, Special Division,
Amruthahalli Main Road, Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru - 560092.

No: BNCC/EE/SD/TEND/05/2026-27 Date: 29-05-2026

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Special Division, BNCC, Bengaluru invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers for the Works detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Construction of following Skywalks under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on Dynamic Duration Model under Commercial Advertisement Rights near Malabar Junction (H.B.R Layout, K.P.T.C.L Theme Park) Outer Ring Road, Sarvagnanagara. **(Call-3) - EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 5.00**
2	Construction of following Skywalks under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on Dynamic Duration Model under Commercial Advertisement Rights at Hains Road, Hains Junction in Ward No. 78, Pulikeshinagara. **(Call-3) - EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 5.00**
3	Construction of following Skywalks under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on Dynamic Duration Model under Commercial Advertisement Rights at Charles School, Hennur Main Road in Ward No. 60, Pulikeshinagara. **(Call-3) - EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 5.00**
4	Construction of following Skywalks under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on Dynamic Duration Model under Commercial Advertisement Rights at Wheelers Road, Sindhi Colony in Ward No. 78, Pulikeshinagara. **(Call-3) - EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 5.00**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 01-06-2026. 2)** Last Date for Tender Queries: **05-06-2026 upto 3.00 PM. 3)** Date of Pre Bid Meeting: **05-06-2026 at 3.00 PM in Office of the Chief Engineer, Zone-1, BNCC, 2nd Floor, Amruthahalli Main Road, Byatarayanapura, Bengaluru - 560092. 4)** Last Date for Receipt of Tender: **12-06-2026 upto 4.00 PM. 5)** Date of Opening of Technical Bid: **15-06-2026 at 11.00 AM. 6)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid: **After Approval of Technical Bid.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer, Special Division, BNCC.

KARNATAKA VETERINARY, ANIMAL & FISHERIES SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, BIDAR

Regional Office, Hebbal, Bengaluru-560024.

e-Auction No: KVAFSU/2026-27/AUCTION5 Date: 26.05.2026

e-Auction Notification

Sub: Inviting E-Auction for interest rate bids on investment of Rs.1674.91 Lakhs of surplus funds in fixed deposit, Callable for one year through E-portal, Government of Karnataka

University is inviting competitive Rate of Interest through e-bidding on KPP Portal of Govt. of Karnataka for placing surplus funds of approx. Rs. 1674.91 Lakhs (Rupees One Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Four Lakhs and Ninety One Thousand Only) for one year in fixed deposits from Public Sector banks, RRBs and Private sector scheduled commercial banks available in Karnataka.

E-Auction documents should be submitted electronically through e-Procurement portal (**https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**) and last date for applying is on **10.06.2026 before 16.00 Hrs.** For further Information please contact Tender processing cell, Regional campus, KVAFSU, Hebbal, Bengaluru - 560024 Phone: +91-9845313244, 9343999599 during office hours or from (**https://kppp.karnataka. gov.in**) KPP Portal.

Sd/-
Co-Ordinator,
Tender Processing Cell, KVAFSU

DIPR/CP/JA/882/2026-27

RAIL COACH FACTORY KAPURTHALA

On-line bids are invited by PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India for following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No. & Due Date	Description	PL No.	Quantity	EMD (Rs.)
1.	05261306 29.06.2026	4 TYPES OF SET OF SIDE WALL COMPLETE, ROOF ASSEMBLY & END WALL COMPLETE FOR VANDE METRO	31141043	4 Set	1535800
			31141055	16 Set	
			31141067	8 Set	
			31141079	4 Set	
2.	05261214 29.06.2026	3 TYPES OF SET OF SIDE WALL COMPLETE AND, ROOF COMPLETE FOR LHB AMRIT BHARAT COACHES	33552149	63 Set	2000000
			33552196	71 Nos	
			33552204	34 Set	
3.	05261297 24.06.2026	INTEGRATED WTCC FOR LHB GS, SCN & SLRD AMRIT BHARAT COACHES	33552277	762 Nos	1238150
			33552289	37 Set	
4.	05261288 22.06.2026	SET OF COUPLER FOR INTERMEDIATE FOR VANDE BHARAT & DTC	31227260	61 Set	1654920
			31227272	15 Set	
5.	17261018A 25.06.2026	DESIGN, SUPPLY & INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING OF INTERIOR FURNISHING ITEMS OF ONE RAKE SET FOR HS-SPART		24 Set	50,00,000
6.	17261196 22.06.2026	SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF ONE RAKE SET OF AUTOMATIC DOUBLE LEAF SLIDING PLUG DOOR FOR 16 CAR VB METRO RAKE		2 Set	20,00,000
7.	05261248 29.06.2026	FRONT PART COMPLETE FOR HS SPART DRIVING END (NOSE CONE SIDE).		26 Nos	1,19,480
8.	12251374 22.06.2026	SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF WINDOWS WITH ADHESIVES FOR ONE RAKE SET OF NAMO BHARAT RAPID RAIL WITH SPARE (1 RAKE SET = 16 COACHES & 1 TC COACH AS SPARE		04 Sets	4,81,170
9.	05261302 01.07.2026	UNDER FRAME COMPLETE FOR LHB SLRD AMRIT BHARAT COACHES		16 Nos	4,02,140
10.	05261310 07.07.2026	Supply, INSTALLATION, COMMISSIONING AND TESTING OF 2-TYPES OF EP BRAKE EQUIPMENT FOR MEMU		296 Sets	2000000

CORRIGENDUM

Tender No To be read as 04261025 instead of 0261025;

1. For details and making On-line Bids, visit Website **http://ireps.gov.in.** Drawings/specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF Website **http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in** Class III-B digital signature certificate required for on-line bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at **http://www.cce.gov.in 2.** Tenders will close at 14.30 hrs. on due date and tender will be opened at 14.30 HRS. S.No 1 to 8 Tenders will opened at RCF Kapurthala, (Punjab) and S.No. 9 to 10 Tender will opened at RCF Tilak Bridge New Delhi; **3.** For queries, contact IREPS Helpdesk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF helpdesk at 011-23378658

PCMM

NO. 20-S/2026-27 Dated: 29.05.2026

32001/300/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
ANANDAPUR BARRAGE PROJECT, SALAPADA
E-mail id: cceabp@gmail.com
E-procurement Notice No. CCEABP-01 of 2026-27

E-Procurement Officer	Name of the work	Bid id No	Tender cost in Lakhs (Appx)	Bid security in Lakhs (online)	Cost of Bid Document (Online)	Class of contractor	Period of completion	Availability of tender on line for bidding From	Availability of tender on line for bidding To	Date of opening of technical Bid (Cover - 1)
Chief Construction Engineer A.B Project, Salapada	Excavation and Cement Concrete Lining of Baitarani Right Bank Canal (BRBC) from RD 3.40 km to RD 6.81 km (Balance work) including construction of structures and service road.	ABP-ACD-01/01 of 2026-27	5319.00	53.19	10,000/-	'Super' Class	12 (Twelve) calendar month	01.06.26 11.30AM	22.06.26 5.00PM	23.06.26 11.30AM

Further details can be seen from the Govt. website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in/www.dowrodisha.gov.in.** Addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation if any required will be published in Govt. website only.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer,
Anandapur Barrage Project, Salapada.
OIPR-32001/32180/1/26-27/0001

32001/296/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER
SOUTHERN MINOR IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
(E-mail ID : sesmicbam@gmail.com)
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-Procurement Notice
e-Procurement Notice No. ACESMIC-01/2026-27
Letter No. 980 Dated. 26.05.2026

The Additional Chief Engineer, Southern Minor Irrigation Circle, Berhampur, on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites **Percentage rate** bids in **Double cover** system through **Online Mode.** The bid documents consisting of work, Estimated Cost, Cost of Tender Paper, Time of Completion, Class of Contractor, set of terms and conditions of the contract and other necessary documents can be seen in e-procurement portal **https://tendersodisha.gov.in.**

1. Name of the work : Construction of Head Works (D/W) of Puriasahi MIP in Patrapur Block of Ganjam District under WSIDP 2026-27 (Balance Work)
2. Total Number of works : 01 (One No.)
3. Estimated cost : Approximately **Rs. 144.89 Lakh**
4. Period of completion : As mentioned against the work in Annexure to Bid Notice
5. Class of Contractor : As mentioned against the work in Annexure to Bid Notice
6. Date and time of availability of bid documents in the portal : From 10:00 A.M of 30.05.2026 to 5:00 PM of 16.06.2026
7. Last date/time for receipt of bids in the portal : 5:00 PM on 16.06.2026
8. Date of opening of bid : At 11:00 AM on 17.06.2026 **(www.tendersodisha.gov.in)**
9. Submission of Bids : Online mode
10. Name of the Officer inviting Bid : Additional Chief Engineer, Southern Minor Irrigation Circle, Berhampur.
11. Further details can be seen from the Government of Odisha Website: **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/-
Additional Chief Engineer
Southern MI Circle, Berhampur
OIPR - 32001/32061/1/26-27/0001

32001/301/2627

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER
ANGUL IRRIGATION CIRCLE, ANGUL, ODISHA
Pin-759143
email : aceangulirrigationcircle@gmail.com
Government of Odisha "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Bid Identification No. ACEAIC-01/2026-27

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Class of Contractor	Period of completion	Date and Time of availability of bid document in the portal	Last date/time for receipt of bid in the portal	Name & Address of the Officer Inviting Bid
01	Improvement to Canal Service Road of Gohira Right Main Canal from RD 00 to 8800 m (Bank Widening, extension of old structure with metalling) of GIP under Deogarh Irrigation Division, Deogarh.	Rs.249.92 lakh	"A" & "B"	8 (Eight) Calendar Months including rainy season	02.06.2026 at 10.00 AM	16.06.2026 up to 5.30 PM	Additional Chief Engineer, Angul Irrigation Circle, Angul
02	Improvement to Canal Service Road of Gohira Right Main Canal from RD 14200 m. to 20600 m. (Bank Widening, extension of old structure with metalling) of GIP under Deogarh Irrigation Division, Deogarh.	Rs.249.30 lakh	"A" & "B"	8 (Eight) Calendar Months including rainy season	02.06.2026 at 10.00 AM	16.06.2026 up to 5.30 PM	
03	Improvement to Colony road from NH to Division office at Rengalbeda & PWD office to Sub-Division office at Dam site under Deogarh Irrigation Division, Deogarh.	Rs. 245.98 lakh	"A" & "B"	8 (Eight) Calendar Months including rainy season	02.06.2026 at 10.00 AM	16.06.2026 up to 5.30 PM	

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal **http://tendersodisha.gov.in.** Any corrigendum/ addendum/cancellation will be displayed in the **Govt. Website only.**

Sd/-
Additional Chief Engineer
Angul Irrigation Circle, Angul.
OIPR-32001/32081/1/26-27/0001

30001/30/2627

DIRECTORATE OF MINES & GEOLOGY
STEEL AND MINES DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF ODISHA
BHUBANESWAR

Heads of Department Building, Unit-V, Pin-751001
Tel No.: 0674-2391537, Fax No.: 0674-2391684
Email ID: directormines1@orissaminerals.gov.in

Date: May 29, 2026

Notice Inviting Tender

"Invitation of bids for grant of Mining Lease for Iron Ore, Bauxite, Aluminous Laterite, Limestone and Manganese Mineral and for grant of Composite Licence for Bauxite Mineral"

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 10 (B) and Section 11 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 as amended from time to time notified thereunder, the Government of Odisha has identified:

a) 8 mineral blocks (2 blocks of Bauxite, 1 Iron Ore, 1 Iron Ore & Aluminous Laterite, 2 blocks of Iron Ore & Manganese, 1 block of Manganese & Dolomite, and 1 block of Limestone) for Electronic Auction and hereby invites tenders for the purposes of grant of ***Mining Lease.***

b) 3 mineral blocks of Bauxite for Electronic Auction and hereby invites tenders for the purposes of grant of ***Composite Licence.***

Accordingly, financial bids are invited in digital format only and technical bids are invited both in digital and physical format from eligible bidders.

Eligibility conditions, date and time for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. Detailed Tender Documents along with timelines, notifications, updates and other details for the e-auction process for the mineral blocks are available in electronic form only and can be downloaded from the website of MSTC Limited: (**https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcln/**).

Interested and eligible bidders can register themselves on the above website. On successful registration, eligible bidders will obtain login ID and password necessary for participation in the e-auction process. Model Tender Document and Mineral Block Summary are available free of cost on the website of MSTC Limited.

The block specific Tender documents are available for purchase on the e-auction portal of MSTC Limited from Monday, June 01, 2026. Last date for purchase of Tender Document after payment of a tender fee on website of e-auction platform provider is Monday, July 06, 2026 and the last date for submission of the bid is Monday, July 13, 2026 on or before 17:00 hours (Indian Standard Time). The Price of Tender Document is exclusive of applicable GST. GST is payable under the Reverse Charge Mechanism. All blocks are put up for auction as virgin blocks.

List of Mineral Blocks for Auction

Sr. No	Name of Block	District	Mineral	ML/ CL	Price of Tender Document
1.	Karlapat Bauxite Block	Kalahandi	Bauxite	ML	5,00,000
2.	Nunapaimali Bauxite Block	Rayagada	Bauxite	ML	5,00,000
3.	Patamunda - B Manganese & Iron Ore Block	Sundargarh	Manganese & Iron Ore	ML	5,00,000
4.	Kendudihi-Parulipada Manganese & Dolomite Block	Kendujhar	Manganese, & Dolomite	ML	5,00,000
5.	Jaldihi Tantigram Iron Ore & Aluminous Laterite Block	Sundargarh	Iron Ore & Aluminous Laterite	ML	5,00,000
6.	Gadadharpur Iron Ore Block	Kendujhar	Iron Ore	ML	5,00,000
7.	Barpada South Iron & Manganese Ore Block	Sundargarh	Iron Ore & Manganese	ML	5,00,000
8.	Behera Banjipali Limestone Block	Bargarh	Limestone	ML	2,00,000
9.	Tikirimali-Budharajamali Bauxite Block	Rayagada	Bauxite	CL	5,00,000
10.	Tikriguda-Maliguda Bauxite Block	Rayagada	Bauxite	CL	5,00,000
11.	Nangalmarhimali Bauxite Block	Rayagada	Bauxite	CL	5,00,000

Sd/-
Director of Mines & Geology, Odisha
OIPR-30001/30028/1/26-27/0002

KARNATAKA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

#49, "Parisara Bhavan", 1st to 5th Floor, Church Street, Bengaluru-560001, Karnataka,
Phone: 25581383, 25589112, 25586520, Fax: 080-25586321
E-mail: ho@kspcb.gov.in, Website: https://kspcb.karnataka.gov.in

NO. PCB/338/SEO/MINES/EPH/2026-27/802 Date: 29.05.2026

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING NOTIFICATION

Sri. Sharanabasava S/o Jambanna has proposed to undertake Quarrying of River Sand with a production capacity of 83,550 Tonnes per Annum for a period of five years in a total land Area of 12.20 Acres (5.0585 Hectares) at **Ordinary Sand Block-RSB-63 in Tungabhadra Riverbed Project, Adjacent to Sy. Nos. 1 & 2/1 of Chikalparvi Block-04 Village, Manvi Taluk, Raichur District.** This project proposal falls under Category B1, Activity 1(a) – "Mining of Minerals" as per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and its amendments.

As per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification dated:14.09.2006 and its and Amendment dated: 01.12.2009, the project proponent has to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority and is required to go through the process of Environmental Public Hearing. As per the Terms of Reference (ToR) letter No. SEIAA 32 MIN 2026 dated:03.03.2026 issued by the SEIAA, Karnataka and request letter of the project proponent dated:20.03.2026 and the Environmental Officer, Regional Office, Raichur letter dated:21.05.2026 intimating the date, the Environmental Public Hearing is being conducted by the KSPCB.

The details of the project are as follows:

1. Name & Address of the Project Proponent : Sri. Sharanabasava S/o Jambanna, #1, Aldhal, Manvi Taluk, Raichur District – 584 102.

2. Location of the proposed Quarry Project : Ordinary Sand Block-RSB-63 in Tungabhadra Riverbed Project, Adjacent to Sy. Nos. 1 & 2/1 of Chikalparvi Block-04 Village, Manvi Taluk, Raichur District.

3. Details of proposed Project : Proposed to undertake Quarrying of River Sand with a production capacity of 83,550 Tonnes per Annum for a period of five years in a total land Area of 12.20 Acres (5.0585 Hectares).

4. Date, time and venue of Environmental Public Hearing : Date : 30.06.2026 (Tuesday), Time: 10:30 AM, Place: Guru Virupaksheshwara Kalyana Mantapa, Chikalparvi Village, Madlapura Gram Panchayat, Manvi Taluk, Raichur District.

5. Places of availability of project documents as per EIA Notification, which is kept open to public are: (a) Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Raichur District, Raichur. **(b)** Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Raichur District, Raichur. **(c)** District Industries Centre, Raichur District, Raichur. **(d)** Tahasildar Office, Manvi Taluk, Raichur District. **(e)** Department of Mines & Geology, Raichur District. **(f)** City Municipal Council, Manvi, Raichur District. **(g)** Gram Panchayat Office, Madlapura, Manvi Taluk. **(h)** Office of the Zonal Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Vijayanagara. **(i)** Office of the Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Raichur. **(j)** SEIAA Karnataka (Ecology and Environment), Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Government of Karnataka, Room No. 709, 7th Floor, 4th Gate, MS Building, Bengaluru – 560 001. **(k)** HELP DESK, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ground Floor, No. 49, Parisara Bhavana, Church Street, Bengaluru – 560 001.

NOTE: Suggestions, views, comments and objections of interested bonafide residents, environmental groups and others located at project site and likely to be affected by the proposed project are invited within 30 days from the date of publication of this Notification to make oral/written/E-Mail suggestions to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board/Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee (Deputy Commissioner, Raichur District, Raichur). Interested public can participate in the Public Hearing at the above place. For details please visit our Website: **https://kspcb.karnataka.gov.in/.**

Sd/-
Member Secretary

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CBSE's digital push was inevitable, but could OSM rollout have been slower?

Institutions Say Tech Reform Succeeds Best Through Careful Piloting Than Single Leap

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: For an examination system handling millions of answer sheets every year, the push towards technology was perhaps inevitable. CBSE's rollout of on-screen marking (OSM) for class XII board examinations this year was therefore hardly a radical experiment, but part of a larger shift already underway across universities and examination boards seeking to reduce long-standing manual errors, improve transparency and build a more secure, future-ready evaluation system. Yet, amid complaints from some students over allegedly blurred scanned copies and operational glitches during post-result processes, questions are now being raised over whether CBSE could have staggered the rollout differently or adopted a more phased transition.

The logic behind digital evaluation is straightforward: automatic totalling of marks, prevention of skipped answers, reduced clerical mistakes, faster processing and greater secrecy in handling answer scripts. Importantly, evaluators — not computers — assessed the copies, and the marking scheme remained unchanged from the traditional system.

Several institutions that moved to digital evaluation earlier say the technology itself is not the problem. The challenge, they argue, lies in managing scale, training and gradual implementation.

Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) in Karnataka, one of the earliest adopters, introduced digital evaluation in 2011

Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) in Karnataka, one of the earliest adopters, introduced digital evaluation in 2011. Initially dependent on external software, the university later built its own indigenous system.

"I worked as a custodian of exams in my career and have seen the malpractices that could happen in manual exams. Answer scripts could be replaced and pages changed, question papers could be leaked," said former VTU vice-chancellor H Maheshappa. "When I announced the idea of digital evaluation, people laughed. But now people have realised the advantages and it is widely adopted."

Maheshappa said VTU established scanning centres where answer books were digitised the same day and uploaded by night. "There were two evaluators checking each script. If there was a difference of more than 15 marks between them, it went to a third evaluator. This practice continues," he added.

Bangalore University later adopted a modified version of the VTU system in 2018-19 after training faculty members. Officials said the digital process eliminated totalling mistakes, enabled contactless evaluation during the pandemic and allowed easier retrieval of answer sheets during disputes. "This ensures a sense of satisfaction and transparency to all stakeholders and also reduces negative publicity and delay in publishing results," officials said.

Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS), which adopted the system in 2015 for over 1,500 affiliated colleges, said evaluators were empowered to reject unclear scanned copies. "When our evaluators get scanned copies that are not clear, they have the option to reject them. These answer scripts will have to be rescanned before evaluation," an official said.

Tamil Nadu's Anna University piloted digital valuation in 2019 before expanding it gradually after the pandemic. Alagappa University and Thiruvalluvar University have also adopted digital valuation systems. Anna University officials said every scanned page was checked for clarity before evaluation and the rollout was deliberately phased.

The shift is not limited to India. Before the Cambridge board transitioned to on-screen marking, Mysuru-based technology firm Exelsoft spent nearly a year training AI systems using historical answer books, examiner annotations and awarded scores. "We didn't simply switch on an AI model and begin marking," said Exelsoft chairman and managing director Dhananjaya Sudhanva. "Different subjects required different models."

Sudhanva said every deployment begins with carefully controlled pilots involving 30,000 to 60,000 answer books before scaling up. Today, the company handles assessment operations covering 30 to 40 million tests every month for multiple examination boards, including AQA in England.

Even boards now planning digital transitions appear cautious after observing CBSE's experience. The Maharashtra State Board plans to begin with a limited pilot involving around 1,000 students in Pune for a supplementary geography examination.

"Whenever a new technology is introduced, there will be teething troubles," said Maharashtra board chairperson Trigun Kulkarni. "We have seen the problems faced by CBSE when implementing the system for a large number of students. So, we will introduce this system in a phased manner instead of in one go."

Savitribai Phule Pune University is also proceeding cautiously. "Only after we solve all the problems we face in these experiments and are satisfied, will we even think of introducing it for our eight lakh plus students," said pro vice-chancellor Parag Kalkar.

Mumbai University's troubled rollout of OSM in 2017 remains another cautionary example. Tech glitches, delays in uploading answer sheets and inadequate training disrupted result processing. Yet stakeholders now say the system eventually streamlined assessments.

CBSE claims its transition was not rushed. The board says OSM was first conceptualised in 2014 but deferred because technology was not mature enough. Before implementation this year, it conducted mock evaluations, webinars, training sessions and practice exercises involving teachers across school systems.

The broader consensus emerging from universities and boards, however, is that digital evaluation is increasingly becoming unavoidable for large-scale examinations. But institutions repeatedly underline that technological reform succeeds best through careful piloting, phased expansion and continuous course correction rather than a single leap.

(Inputs from Hemali Chhapia, Sruthy Susan Ullas, Yogita Rao, Ardhra Nair & A Ragu Raman)

Hyd firm linked to CBSE row under probe for exam glitches

Sarfaraz.Ahmed
@timesofindia.com

Nagpur: COEMPT Edu Teck Pvt Ltd, the Hyderabad-based company at the centre of the CBSE on-screen marking controversy, is facing allegations of marksheet blunders, exam glitches and fake documentation at Nagpur University, where more than 3.17 lakh students have been affected since the firm took over examination operations.

The company secured a three-year contract worth Rs 5 crore from Nagpur University for preliminary and post-examination work in the 2025-26 academic session. National Students' Union of India's Nagpur unit has since accused COEMPT of furnishing false documents during the bidding process, also alleging that the firm had been previously blacklisted by universities in Telangana.

Since COEMPT's appointment, winter 2025 results carried incorrect calculations, subject mismatches and errors in hall tickets. Results for more than 1,200 winter examinations faced inordinate delays, more than 300 students lodged complaints with the university and 60% of results for major courses missed the mandated 45-day deadline.

The disruption spilled into the ongoing summer 2026 examinations. Students reported that hall tickets were not generated even 24 hours before papers, wrong subjects appeared on admit cards and the examination process was riddled with glitches. The university was forced to conduct summer exams without issuing corrected winter marksheets. Final-year students are now stressing over application deadlines for higher education as corrections remain pending. Affiliated colleges have flagged separate problems with COEMPT's software. "Basic addition of student exam fees are riddled with errors. Instead of Rs 96,000, the portal showed Rs 9.6 lakh as payment collected. It's just trauma for students since COEMPT took over," an examination official said.

Student protests prompted the university to serve COEMPT a legal notice and constitute a three-member inquiry panel. A PIL is being heard by the Nagpur bench of the Bombay high court.

NSUI's Nagpur unit alleged that COEMPT previously operated under the name Globarena Technologies and used that entity's work experience to qualify for the Nagpur University tender.

Manmohan Bajpai, a university senate member heading the inquiry panel, said two hearings with COEMPT officials had taken place. "They blamed the previous agency for not handing over student data, which caused delays and blunders in marksheets. But the same problems are being encountered in summer exams too," Bajpai said.

He said hearings had been deferred until the end of summer examinations and that the vice-chancellor had asked the panel to identify any university officials who might have been complicit in the alleged irregularities.

Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India
(A Statutory Body of the Government of India)
3rd Floor, 'A' Block, Udaan Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi – 110003
Ph ; 24695041, Website : http://aera.gov.in

VACANCY NOTICE

(i) Director (Legal)-Pay level 13 (1 Nos)
(ii) Bench Officer (Legal)-Pay level 11 (1 Nos)

Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India (AERA), invites applications from eligible candidates for filling up posts of, Director (Legal) – Pay Level 13 (01 No.), Bench Officer (Legal) – Pay Level 11 (01 No.), in New Delhi on deputation basis. The Authority is in process of amending recruitment rules for enabling absorption of personnel in AERA. The candidates selected for deputation may also be considered for permanent absorption in this office, based on extant guidelines and the rules post amendment. Details are available on AERA's website **http://aera.gov.in**. Last date for receipt of applications is 30.06.2026 till 5:30 pm. Corrigendum/ Addendum, if any, in this regard would be published only on AERA's Website.

Note- The vacancies are liable to change without notice and without assigning any reason.

Sd/-
Deputy Chief, AERA

CBC 03112/12/0004/2627

IDBI BANK LIMITED
Regd. Off. IDBI Tower, WTC Complex, Cuffe Parade, Mumbai-400 005
CIN No: L65190MH2004GO1148838

RFP FOR PROCUREMENT OF DIGITAL LENDING SOLUTION FOR LOAN ORIGINATION AND MONITORING

IDBI Bank invites sealed proposals from eligible bidders for the above RFP/Solution. Please visit Bank's website **https://www.idbi.bank.in** (Notices & Tenders) for details.

Note: Any further Addenda / Corrigenda / Extension of dates / Clarifications / Responses to bidders' queries in respect of the above RFP shall be posted only on Bank's website and no separate notification shall be issued In the newspapers. Bidders are therefore requested to regularly visit Bank's website to keep themselves updated in this regard.

Land Ports Authority of India, M.H.A
(Appointment of Member (Finance) on deputation basis)

LPAI had issued a vacancy circular dated 13th March, 2026 for filling up the post of Member (Finance) with the last date of submission of applications being 30-04-2026. Now the last date is being extended up to 12-06-2026. For more details, **please visit the websites of Ministry of Home Affairs at http://mha.gov.in and LPAI at http://lpai.gov.in**.

CBC 19142/11/0003/2627

भारतीय समुद्री विश्वविद्यालय
INDIAN MARITIME UNIVERSITY
(A Central University under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India)
Established by an Act of the Parliament in 2008

Advt. No. IMU-HQ/R/NT/2026/01 **Date: 30.05.2026**

Recruitment of Campus Director (On Direct Recruitment / Deputation Basis)

Applications are invited from Indian Nationals for the post of Campus Director on Direct Recruitment / Deputation basis in IMU. Interested candidates may submit their applications online through the link available at **https://www.imu.edu.in/imunew/recruitment.**

Name of the Post	No. of Posts	Category	Pay Level (7th CPC pay matrix)
Campus Director	*02 Posts [including 01 anticipated vacancy]*	UR – 02 posts	Level-14 [Academic] under 7th CPC plus Special Allowance of Rs. 6,750/- per month. Other benefits and allowances are as per IMU norms.

Note: The vacancies indicated are tentative in nature and IMU reserves the right to increase/decrease/cancel/withdraw any or all the vacancies at any time.

The Campus Director is the academic-cum-administrative head of the Campus. Apart from day-to-day administration and overall management of the Campus, the Campus Director is expected to:

- Provide leadership for long term development of the Campus in line with the Maritime India Vision 2030, Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, Vision of the University – IMU StARTS Plan 25 and NEP 2020.
- Contribute to create a thriving learning environment for students, faculty and staff. Strengthen academic, consulting and research activities in the Campus/University.
- Build and nurture alliances and partnerships with alumni and stakeholders in the maritime sector to enhance the academic standing of the University.

The vacancies stated above are tentative and are subject to change. IMU reserves the right not to fill up any of the posts advertised (or) cancel the recruitment at any stage.

Important dates:
Opening date for the submission of online application : 30.05.2026
Closing date for the submission of online application : 28.06.2026
Last date for receiving hard copies of the applications : 05.07.2026

Women candidates are encouraged to apply

For further details regarding the eligibility criteria: i.e., Age, Educational Qualifications, Experience, etc., please visit ***https://www.imu.edu.in/imunew/recruitment***

Sd/-
Registrar

INDIAN PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION
(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare)
Sector-23, Raj Nagar, Ghaziabad -201002

The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) has been established as an autonomous Institution under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India primarily with the objectives of regularly updating the Indian Pharmacopoeia (an official book for setting standards of drugs in the Country) by publishing new edition and its addenda, National Formulary of India (reference book for rational use of generic medicines) and carrying out other related tasks such as providing Reference Substances to the stakeholders and conducting skill development programmes. The Commission also functions as National Coordination Centres (NCC) for Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI) and Materiovigilance Programme of India (MvPI) for ensuring safety of drugs and medical devices, respectively, in the Country.

Applications are invited for filling four posts of Scientific Assistant by Direct recruitment as per the details below, from competent, dedicated and dynamic candidates fulfilling the eligibility criteria/essential qualifications and other details as per format which may be downloaded from the website of the Commission (https://www.ipc.gov.in/career). The completed application form as per format prescribed together with attested copies of testimonials and other relevant supporting documents should be submitted to the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission within 45 days of publication of this advertisement in Employment News/Rozgar Samachar.

S. No.	Nomenclature of the post	No. of posts	Scale as per 7th CPC recommendation	Age Limit
1.	Scientific Assistant	3 UR + 1 OBC	Pay Matrix Level- 06 (Rs.35,400-1,12,400)	Up to 35 years

Note: -

1. Age relaxation as per Govt. Norms.
2. Those employed in Government Organization should apply through proper channel.
3. The number of posts may increase or decrease without assigning any reason.
4. Please visit the website of Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission at www.ipc.gov.in/career from time to time for complete details of the qualifications, application format and general information for the posts.

Secretary-cum-Scientific Director,
IP Commission, Ghaziabad

कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक, यूनिट-01
कन्स्ट्रक्शन एण्ड डिजाइन सर्विसेज
उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरीय)
भवन संख्या 6,कृष्णा कुटीर व्हाईट हाउस, फेज-2, वीरास्वामी रेड्डी ले-आउट के समीप कादुगौडी, बेंगलुरु. फोन: +91 7379017520
ई-मेल: cdsunit01@gmail.com

पत्रांक : 581/ M-6 / 117
दिनांक : 27.05.2026

ई-निविदा सूचना

उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरीय) की ओर से अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा **Construction of Central Covered Courtyard Works at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Ramanagra, Distt.-Ramanagra (Karnataka),** अनु0 लागत रू0 **90.13** लाख हेतु दिनांक **06.06.2026** की अपरान्ह **05:00 बजे** तक ई-निविदा आमन्त्रित की जाती हैं। उक्त कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक **29.05.2026** से दिनांक **06.06.2026** के मध्य उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की e-procurement की वेबसाइट **https://etender.up.nic.in** से डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं तथा ई-निविदा दिनांक **08.06.2026** को अपरान्ह **01:00** बजे कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक, यूनिट-01, सी0 एण्ड डी0एस0, उ0प्र0 जल निगम (नगरीय), भवन सं0-06, कृष्णा कुटीर व्हाईट हाउस, फेज-2, वीरास्वामी रेड्डी ले-आउट के समीप, कांदुगौड़ी, बैंगलुरू में खोली जायेगी। ई-निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य रू0 **5,000.00+GST(18%) अतिरिक्त** देय होगा। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत विवरण विभाग की वेबसाइट **www.cdsupjn.org** एवं प्रोक्योरमेन्ट पोर्टल **https://etender.up.nic.in** पर उपलब्ध है। समस्त शुद्धि पत्र (Corrigendum) **https://etender.up.nic.in** पर ही अपलोड किये जायेंगे, **इनका पृथक से कोई प्रकाशन नहीं किया जायेगा।** निविदादाताओं को सलाह दी जाती है कि वे उक्त वेबसाइट का समय-समय पर अवलोकन करते रहें।

Andhra Pradesh Airports Development Corporation Ltd.
(Under the control of Infrastructure & Investment Dept.)
Mangalagiri, Amaravati.

Development, Operation and Maintenance of Greenfield Airport at Dagadarthi, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh on PPP Basis (DBFOT) (3rd Call)

Notice No.02/Dagadarthi Airport/APADCL/2026-27, Dt.29.05.2026.

Andhra Pradesh Airports Development Corporation Limited (APADCL) invites Proposals from reputed Global firms for the captioned assignment. Interested firms may download the Request for Proposal (RFP) document from the website of APADCL @ **https://www.apadcl.com/** on **29.05.2026 at 11.00 AM**. The last date for submission of the proposals is on or before **03.00 PM hours IST on 12.06.2026** (in ap e- procurement portal only).

DIPR No.5121PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22 Dt.29.05.2026

Sd/- Managing Director, APADCL

For any clarifications, please send e-mail to: md-apadcl@ap.gov.in, cgmtechapadcl@gmail.com.

CHACHA NEHRU BAL CHIKITSALAYA
(An Autonomous Institute under Govt. of NCT of Delhi)
Affiliated to GGSIP University
Geeta Colony: Delhi - 110031
RECRUITMENT NOTICE

Applications are invited for filling up the following posts of Teaching Faculty i.e. Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and Medical Officers for Chacha Nehru Bal Chikitsalaya, Delhi. The appointment shall be initially on a contract for a period of 05 years with a notice period of 3 months from either side for severance of the contract. Further extension will be based on annual performance appraisal report upto the age of superannuation in the Government of NCT of Delhi. For complete details visit hospital website **www.cnbchospital.in.**

Sl No.	Post	Number of vacant posts				
		UR	OBC	SC	ST	Total
1.	Assistant Professor (Anesthesiology)	-	1	-	-	1
2.	Assistant Professor (Dermatology)	-	1	-	-	1
3.	Assistant Professor (ENT)	-	1	-	-	1
4.	Assistant Professor (Orthopaedics)	-	1	-	-	1
5.	Professor (Pediatrics)	1	1	1	-	3
6.	Associate Professor (Pediatrics)	-	2	-	-	2
7.	Assistant Professor (Pediatrics)	1	2(BL)	-	1	4
8.	Assistant Professor (Ped Surgery)	-	1	1	-	2
9.	Assistant Professor (Radiology)	3	-	-	-	3
10.	Medical Officer	1	-	-	-	1
Total		6	10	2	1	19

Note : BL - Back Log

1. The reservation for DIVYANG (PWD) (OL) candidates shall be as per rules on horizontal basis.
2. The application fee of Rs. 2000/- for General & OBC (Delhi) category candidates and Rs. 1000/- for SC/ST candidates is payable in the form of Demand Draft in favour of Director, CNBC payable at Delhi/New Delhi No fee is payable for DIVYANG candidates. The application fee is non refundable.
3. The complete prescribed applications along with Demand Draft (in original), self attested copies of all certificates should reach in the Office of Director, Chacha Nehru Bal Chikitsalaya, Geeta Colony, Delhi- 110031 **on or before four weeks from the date of publication of the advertisement till 04.00 p.m. In case the last date of submission of applications is a holiday then next working day would be treated as the last date.**
4. Competent authority reserves all the right to alter the number of posts at any stage. All the recruitment process would be subject to approval of Governing Council of the hospital.
5. The list of eligible candidates, schedule of interview and if any corrigendum will be published only on the website of the hospital.

Sd/-
(DR. MONICA JUNEJA)
DIRECTOR

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0083/26-27

28001/8/2627
INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS AND APPLICATIONS
(Science and Technology Department, Govt. of Odisha)
Andharua, Bhubaneswar-751029
Letter No. IMA/42-Admission/601/2026 Date: 29.05.2026

ADMISSION NOTICE FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27 EXTENSION OF LAST DATE OF APPLICATIONS : REGARDING

In continuation to the earlier admission notice vide notice number IMA/42-Adm./397/2026 dated 08.04.2026, it is to notify that the last date of receipt of filled application forms for admission into P.G., I.P.G. and U.G. courses of IMA is extended up to **10.06.2026 (Wednesday).**

The detailed procedure of application, fees, centers of entrance test etc. are available in the IMA website link **https://www.iomaorissa.ac.in**

Sd/-
REGISTRAR
OIPR-28001/28010/1/26-27/0004

RAIL LAND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(A Statutory Authority under Ministry of Railways Government of India)
Unit No. 702-B, 7th Floor, Konnectus Tower-II, DMRC Building, Ajmeri Gate, New Delhi-110002

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL THROUGH E-TENDER
(RFP Notice No. RLDA/2026/RFP/CRD/44 of 2026 dt. 20.05.2026)

"Refurbishment of identified Existing Railway Quarters at Yeshwantpur Colony to Facilitate Phase-wise Implementation of the Proposed Colony Redevelopment Project."

Name of Site	Bid Security	Bid Document Fee	Estimated Cost
"Refurbishment of identified Existing Railway Quarters at Yeshwantpur Colony to Facilitate Phase-wise Implementation of the Proposed Colony Redevelopment Project."	Rs.3,06,000/-	Rs. 5,900/- (i/c GST@18%) (Non-refundable)	Rs. 1.53 Cr.

Last date of Downloading of e-bid Document for participation/submission Online: 18.06.2026 upto 23:59 Hrs.
(Any details to be obtained from Joint General Manager/Projects/Bangalore)
Last date submission of e-bids online: 19.06.2026 up to 15:00 Hrs.

For further details of the project, please visit our website https://.rlda.indianrailways.gov.in or on e-procurement Portal https://www.tenderwizard.in/RLDA under the heading tender/'e-tender'.

For any clarifications, may please contact:-

Chief Project Manager/Bangalore	JGM/Projects/Bangalore	For e-bid queries:
pervesh02k@gmail.com	jgmpsbc@rlda.railinet.gov.in	Mr. Mayank Singh (CEL)
Mob: 9741604203	Mob: 9959187887	mayank.s@etenderwizard.com
		Mob: 8800115628

Note:- Any Corrigendum or Addendum will be published only on above-mentioned websites. JGM/Expert/Tender, (M) 9711305031

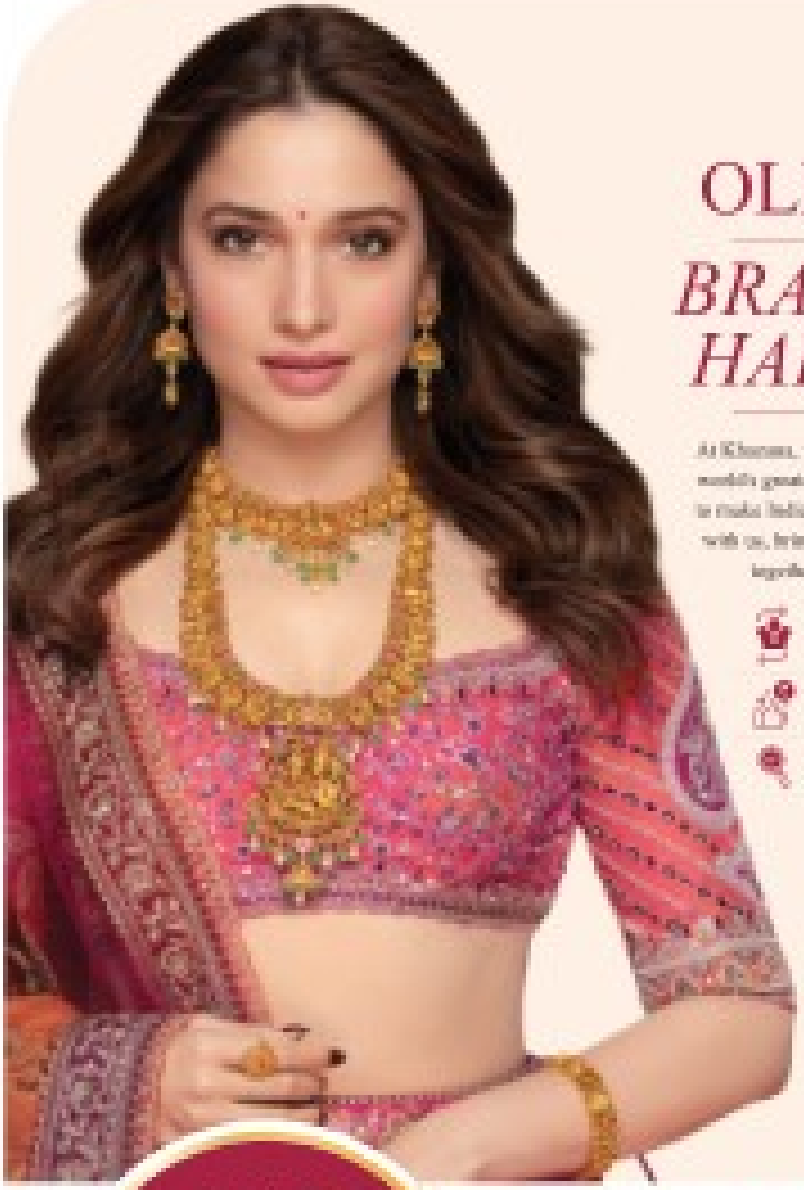
16001/12/2627
ଓଡ଼ିଶା ବୈଷୟିକ ଓ ଗବେଷଣା ବିଶ୍ୱବିଦ୍ୟାଳୟ
ODISHA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH
GHATIKIA, MAHALAXMI VIHAR, BHUBANESWAR – 751 029
Ref. No.: 1753/ACD/OUTR Dated: 29.05.2026

Advertisement for Admission into Ph. D. Program 2026-27

Applications are invited from eligible candidates, for admission into Ph. D. Program of OUTR, Bhubaneswar, for the Session 2026-27. The Closing Date of receiving applications is **25.06.2026** in online mode using the Google Link. Interested candidates may apply online, within the specified period. For detailed Information, please visit our website **www.outr.ac.in**.

Sd/-
REGISTRAR
OIPR-16001/16005/1/26-27/0004

Bangalore Times



OLD GOLD
BRAND NEW HAPPINESS

At Khazana, we believe Indian women hold the world's greatest reserve of gold. And the power to make India stronger. Exchange your old gold with us, bring home brand new happiness and together, let's empower the nation.

- Exchange Your Old Gold Bangle From Any Jeweller
- Assured Best Value For Your Gold
- 100% Transparent Valuation

OLD GOLD EXCHANGE MELA

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A thought for today

Predicting rain doesn't count. Building arks does

WARREN BUFFETT

Dry Run

Brace for weak monsoon, and hope for best

It should have been a good day for markets, with Iran and US talking peace, but Friday ended with Sensex and Nifty down roughly 1.5% each. The dampener was El Nino, which is now expected to weaken this year's monsoon further. In April, IMD had forecast rainfall at 92% of long-term average – below but still close to normal. Now, it's revised it down to 90%. That doesn't seem like a big change, but averages don't tell the whole story. Drought in the food basket states, and excess rainfall elsewhere, can add up to a good average, but food production, inflation, consumer demand, and govt budgets, will all take a hit. That's why the seemingly small, 2 percentage point change is a big deal. And markets are naturally worried.

Not only is it looking like the worst monsoon since 2015, it comes at a time when the Hormuz blockade has pushed Indian fuel prices to their highest levels ever. While diesel for farmers is costlier, govt's subsidy bill for fertilisers could more than double to ₹3.8L cr this year – again because of Hormuz. Given that almost half of India's population is dependent on farming, and half of agriculture is rain-dependent, govt can't ask farmers to share the fertiliser bill. That will strain its finances, curbing infra spending. And while the country's food stocks are adequate, higher food prices due to reduced production will stretch budgets of most families.

It's not a full-blown crisis, but the situation demands deft handling. Centre and states will need to coordinate better, to soften the impact on farmers. The outlook could improve quickly if Iran and US make a deal, easing the pressure of energy and fertiliser prices in a couple of months. Fingers crossed.

Bombay (Union) Talkies

A filmy fight with an interesting message

In a new role, fire-fighter Salman Khan has gone all in to put out flames licking Bollywood. Big Bros Ranveer Singh and Farhan Akhtar are in a rare fight, triggered by Singh's exit from Akhtar's supermega project, Don 3. Singh quit Dec last, took the 'no comment-icado' highway. Akhtar took the shorter road to the producers' body, and films association, which, after meetings failed, hopped across to FWICE, the umbrella body of over 30 cinema workers' unions, lights to make-up, the full shebang. Union bosses pronounced, let no one cooperate with Singh – "No superstar is above the rules of the industry." Only, the union's directive has little legal substance, but, as things stand, 'non-cooperation' is dramatic, and carries weight – remember, it did bring down an Empire.

Image: AI

Mediation, bhaijaan style, for long has been Bollywood's route to douse flames. But a film is no longer just a film. Big-budget ones involve complex scheduling, global releases and streaming deals. Sudden exits hurt not just producers, but technicians, spot boys, camera crews and a host of others whose jobs depend on productions staying on schedule. Whatever the outcome, what's already evident is that this could be a turning point for Bollywood to professionalise. A union publicly challenged an A-list actor. The script says contracts matter more than star aura. An actor is being treated more like a corporate partner. That makes for a good, and interesting, ending.

Fascism And The Future Of Home

We will all be seeking shelter among strangers

She's been called Cassandra. Because author and journalist ***Ece Temelkuran***, ever since she left her home in Turkey in 2016, with two shirts and a pair of trousers, has been warning the world that what she fled, fascism, is coming for everyone else too. In Greek mythology, Cassandra was blessed with the gift of prophecy, but cursed never to be believed.

In her new book ***Nation of Strangers: Rebuilding Home in the 21st Century***, for the first time, Ece no longer feels that she's a step ahead of everyone else. "Dear stranger", she addresses the reader. And asks, "How about you? Are you home? Do you feel at home?" Everywhere, more people are feeling unhomed, not just physically, not just those whose houses are bombed. But also morally, politically, even digitally. Even if they live in their own country.

Her book makes the claim that the misfits, outcasts, foreigners and the like who are now the majority, are too scattered to claim their own nation, and in urgent need of a common language. It's a poetic thesis.

mindfield
SHORT TAKES ON BIG IDEAS

Out in the cold with monsters, lost, broken, melancholic, we already know that many more will soon learn to live like us. What we can tell the others is how to stay human when everything is working against us, how to survive homelessness with dignity, and where to go next.

Right now, Ece says, we are mourning not what we have already lost, but what we know we eventually will. We still have a bit of the rule of law here and there. But we know what's coming. So we doubt why we should even carry the flower seeds, when the soil everywhere is becoming unreliable.

But remember, during WW II, during years of butchery and fascism, with their loved ones gone, and everything turned to dust and ashes, some city planners saved the blueprint of Warsaw. They refused to forget the far future. That's how the entire old town could be rebuilt anew.

That's how we will also survive, Ece says. By depending on our inherent urge to create beauty, and doing it together. When Eyad, a Syrian refugee, got onto a boat, heading for Germany, and it struggled against the waves, he first got an old man on his shoulders, then held a woman and her baby, saving them all from drowning, that's us, the strangers, holding the defence line.

The survival lesson is, don't look at the waves, look at the people next to you. It's not really about hope. But about determination, doing what you can to survive. When parts of the self are lost, "the ultimate decision a stranger makes is how and with what to fill that gap."

At a weekend waltzing with the beasts, aka an exclusive gathering of the world's techno-feudal overlords in the Alps, amidst speeches about money, space, colonies on Mars, AI, and money again, Ece discovers that people are not part of these billionaires' story. "They are designing a future by ensuring there is no return to the familiar homes of humanity: good old democracy, human rights, and the rule of law."

So, what do we have to work with? There is me, there is you, and all the others like us, Ece says. Take care of each other. Don't fall into the trap of getting separated by your differences.

Breather For Now? For How Long?

As a tentative US-Iran deal awaits Trump's signature, the global economy is hoping for a break. But geopolitics, as well as politics in Trump camp & among Iran hardliners, means conflict can restart after a few months

Jane Kinninmont

Columnist based in London

The emerging agreement between US and Iran, will likely create some breathing space for the world economy. Trump is yet to sign off on this. If he does, per initial reports, the focus will be on reopening Strait of Hormuz, providing some sanctions relief for Iran, and implementing a temporary ceasefire for the next two months. That could create some space to negotiate a broader agreement, including on ways to ensure Iran's nuclear programme is kept peaceful.

However, it's unlikely that this represents progress towards a stable equilibrium, whether in Hormuz or West Asia. There are too many sources of volatility and uncertainty, coming from the broader fighting in the region, a growing contest for power in global politics, and unsettled politics inside Iran and US.

The ceasefires in Gaza and Lebanon are stretching the definition of 'ceasefire' to become almost meaningless: Israel killed more than 700 Palestinians in Gaza in the first six months of the ceasefire there, and the figure continues to climb, while Netanyahu has recently said Israel aims to reoccupy 70% of Gaza, and perhaps more.

Meanwhile, the Lebanon ceasefire may collapse altogether, with Israel ordering Lebanese civilians who live within 25km of the border with Israel to leave their homes, as it declares growing parts of southern Lebanon to be an "active combat zone" with Hezbollah. Both Palestinian and Lebanese conflicts with Israel have the potential to disrupt the Iran-US ceasefire, and they also indicate that US is reluctant to rule out continued use of force, even when a ceasefire is formally in place.

That, in turn, makes it difficult to ensure that a ceasefire agreement will be either respected or trusted by both sides.

The Iranian leadership has always been fairly paranoid about internal and external enemies. They will not trust America, and will want to retain the power to disrupt Hormuz in future, as they have discovered that this can be a powerful deterrent.

Image: AI

While Iran will remain anxious about attacks, it appears that its leadership also thinks it has won. And indeed, many US commentators are saying the same thing, making parallels with Iraq or Vietnam, and proclaiming that this has been a strategic defeat for Trump. This alone may mean that Trump can go back to war later on to prove a point, perhaps after gas prices ease, and US mid-term elections are out of the way. It also creates an ongoing risk of Iranian overreach in the region, as a new generation of even more hardline leaders has been empowered, as a direct result of US and Israel killing so many of the old guard.

This is not only about America and Iran, but the broader global picture. UN secretary general said this week that the world now has more wars than at any time since the UN was founded 80 years ago. Wars are also becoming harder to stop, harder to contain, and more deadly for civilians. Where negotiated agreements take place, they are very often producing temporary stopgap solutions – such as a ceasefire – rather than progressing towards a political settlement or addressing the root causes of the conflict.

Ceasefires are important, but they also have a habit of breaking down, if the negotiation process stops at the ceasefire stage. Warring parties may just use the pause to regroup.

There are various possible explanations of why wars are intensifying, and peace processes are being stretched thin. One of the factors is the rise in competition between the world's big powers. Global politics is undergoing a process of 'multipolarisation' – a redistribution of power, beyond the bipolar model of the Cold War, or the dominance that US enjoyed in 1990s and early 2000s.

This has much to do with the economic rise of Asian powers and relative decline in America's share of the world economy. Some would also say it's a reversion to a historical norm, and that the period where the world had a single superpower was extremely unusual, only seeming normal to us because we lived through it.

But while there is widespread acceptance that the world is becoming more multipolar, there is a fierce competition over how this will play out. The uncertainty creates a sense there is everything to play for. This is relevant to the standoff between Iran and US, because their leaders are campaigning for different global futures, while at the same time, their (very) different political systems are also deeply unsettled.

Trump's supporters believe that he will empower America to reassert global economic dominance. They think he will succeed by being more willing than other presidents to wield American hard power. They also think he offers a chance to beat China by winning the 'AI race', unconstrained by concerns about AI safety, or its vast consumption of energy. The attack on Iran comes from this place of conviction that US power is on the rise, brought back by a 'strongman' leader.

If Iran is seen as a test of US power, then the stakes are extremely high for all concerned. A final factor is America's domestic opposition to more war in West Asia. This is what is really bringing Trump to the table. But Iran may read too much into this, and overplay its hand with Hormuz.

It ain't over, not by a long stretch.

The writer is a West Asia expert

'Being Careful Kills The Mood? So Do Clinics'

Modern intimacy comes wrapped in freedom, confusion, risk. A fun fling can be followed by sleepless nights doing a Google search of symptoms. Why not get with the sexiness of sexual health?

Shinie Antony

Passion has a reputation to uphold: It must be red-hot, risky, unplanned. Flames leapt about freely on screen when Rajesh Khanna complimented Sharmila Tagore on her *roop* being *mastana*. Love is a force of nature and mere humans can only moan in the face of it. And once things have reached boiling point, it is considered impolite to do standup or bring up protection.

In romance novels, a lack of contraception is equated with a loss of control. There's a lot of 'he took her' and 'she gave herself', somewhat nullifying the exchange. Hetero lust routinely displays no fear of the future. In fact, less the thought given to consequences, more pleasurable the act is supposed to be. There is the morning-after pill, abortions are no longer an obstacle course, and STDs happen only to others.

This touching faith stems from the human need to be swept away. To be caught up in something larger than themselves. In the hands of which they are but putty, whittled down to mere hormones. 'It just happened,' they whisper helplessly.

Wholistic health has its PR. The wellbeing industry – physical, emotional, spiritual – is thriving. Buddhist chanting, mute meditation retreats, therapy sessions, wearing a particular stone, annual check-up packages at hospitals. But when it comes to sexual health, ignorance is bliss.

There was a time when matriarchs kept anything suspicious 'down there' a secret, preferring death to any treatment options. That coyness is no longer in fashion. Pap smears and mammograms are the norm now, however dreaded they are. Spreadeagled with feet in stirrups, or squashed intimately against cold metal, staying disease-free requires an ouch or two. Friends make a picnic of this trip, and laugh each other out of colposcopy discomfort.

No liaison fades into the sunset. After an unbridled moment, one is destined to forever lie sleepless worrying about their sexual health. Someone is always calling up someone about a missed period. Sensible women feel like killjoys, for bringing up the matter of birth control, when the gang is giggling over one-night stands, or sudden encounters.

The end of fertility periods can also trigger frisky adventures, with pregnancy no longer a fear. This is what newly menopaused women celebrate: An empty nest and their libido. All along, however, conception was never the only threat.

Image: AI

Multiple partners or sex with strangers, I am sure, come with their compensations. A host of high-risk infections are on the horizon too! While the girl talk is centered around a HIM, there's also HPV and HIV. Maintaining sexual hygiene grows grayer in the era of hook-ups and ghosting.

The thrill lies in eyes meeting eyes and trysts arranged breathlessly – swapping hospital reports does tend to bring the charge down. Even if a handsome man you just met tells you his medical history, chances are he will seldom reveal all. And even if he carries the Harishchandra gene, and earnestly shares the truth, most venereal diseases escape the first round of tests, and lie in wait for a year or more to reveal themselves. So, he may be even telling the truth, but only as he knows it right then.

When medical tests follow peccadilloes, the instant chemistry, the flirtatious giggle, the tender embrace, all is forgotten during the nervous pacing in a hospital corridor. HPV vaccines are a recent invention, coming to India perhaps too late for the current sexually active generation. The best time for the Human Papillomavirus vaccine is at nine years, to be concluded by age 14. Very few parents get this done, as the kids are just being kids at that age, and any upcoming dalliance is just a cute joke at this juncture.

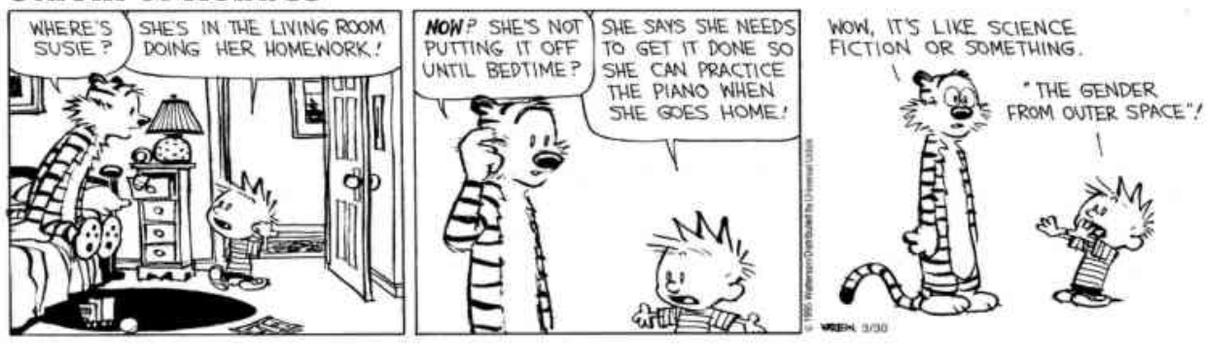
Armed without precautions or regular vaccines, various infections are dismissed as public loo woes. Wrongly. You don't get HPV (or even a UTI) from a toilet seat.

But in the age of apps, it seems downright prudish to be cautious in amour. It is presumed casual sex keeps one young and a daredevil. Films egg us on. Books are full of it. In a room full of steamy stories, a dull and prosaic query on protection only elicits covert pity. Oh, they say, you poor thing, go have some fun. Then, some of my friends who urge me to meet this really nice guy they know, end up calling up late at night to discuss symptoms of a thing that just won't go away.

Of Life And Love
STORIES OF THE WAY WE ARE

A simple 'did you use something?' elicits a pause and memory loss. Most of the time all is well, but the road may hold a bump or lump. To anyone who values a good night's sleep I recommend protection – if that's off-putting, then stay celibate.

Calvin & Hobbes


WHERE'S SUSIE?
SHE'S IN THE LIVING ROOM DOING HER HOMEWORK!
NOW? SHE'S NOT PUTTING IT OFF UNTIL BEDTIME?
SHE SAYS SHE NEEDS TO GET IT DONE SO SHE CAN PRACTICE THE PIANO WHEN SHE GOES HOME!
WOW, IT'S LIKE SCIENCE FICTION OR SOMETHING.
"THE GENDER FROM OUTER SPACE"!

Sacred*space*

Zen... does not confuse spirituality with thinking about God while one is peeling potatoes. Zen spirituality is just to peel the potatoes.

Alan Watts

Matter, Energy And Mystery Of Consciousness

Shri Shri Anandmurti

What we call matter, whether an atom, molecule, mountain, river, or human body, is ultimately condensed energy. Matter is simply energy existing in a compact and organised form. Modern physics has gradually moved towards this realisation. The difference between a stone and a beam of light is not that one is completely different from the other, but that energy manifests itself in different states and patterns.

By discovering laws of energy, we have generated electricity, built machines, explored space, and unlocked the hidden structure of atoms. A scientist is one who understands workings of matter through the language of energy. Yet an important question remains unanswered: Is energy the final truth of existence?

If the universe is nothing more than a collection of particles and forces, where did consciousness come from? How did thought, feeling, imagination, love, memory, and the sense of 'i exist' suddenly emerge from lifeless matter? Something cannot arise from absolute nothingness. If consciousness exists in human beings today, then its possibility must have been present from the very beginning of creation.

Billions of years ago, when the Earth had no plants, animals, or human beings, only subtle forms of energy existed. Yet hidden within those primitive forms was the dormant potential of consciousness. Gradually, through the long movement of evolution and the operations of nature, that latent awareness began to express itself. First came the faint stirrings of life in plants, then instinct and sensation in animals, and finally the self-awareness and reflective intelligence seen in human beings.

THE SPEAKING TREE

This process may be compared to a seed. A tiny seed appears lifeless and insignificant, yet within it lies the possibility of a vast tree. Under proper conditions, hidden life within the seed slowly unfolds. In the same way, consciousness existed in a dormant form within the earliest states of energy and gradually awakened through evolutionary process of nature.

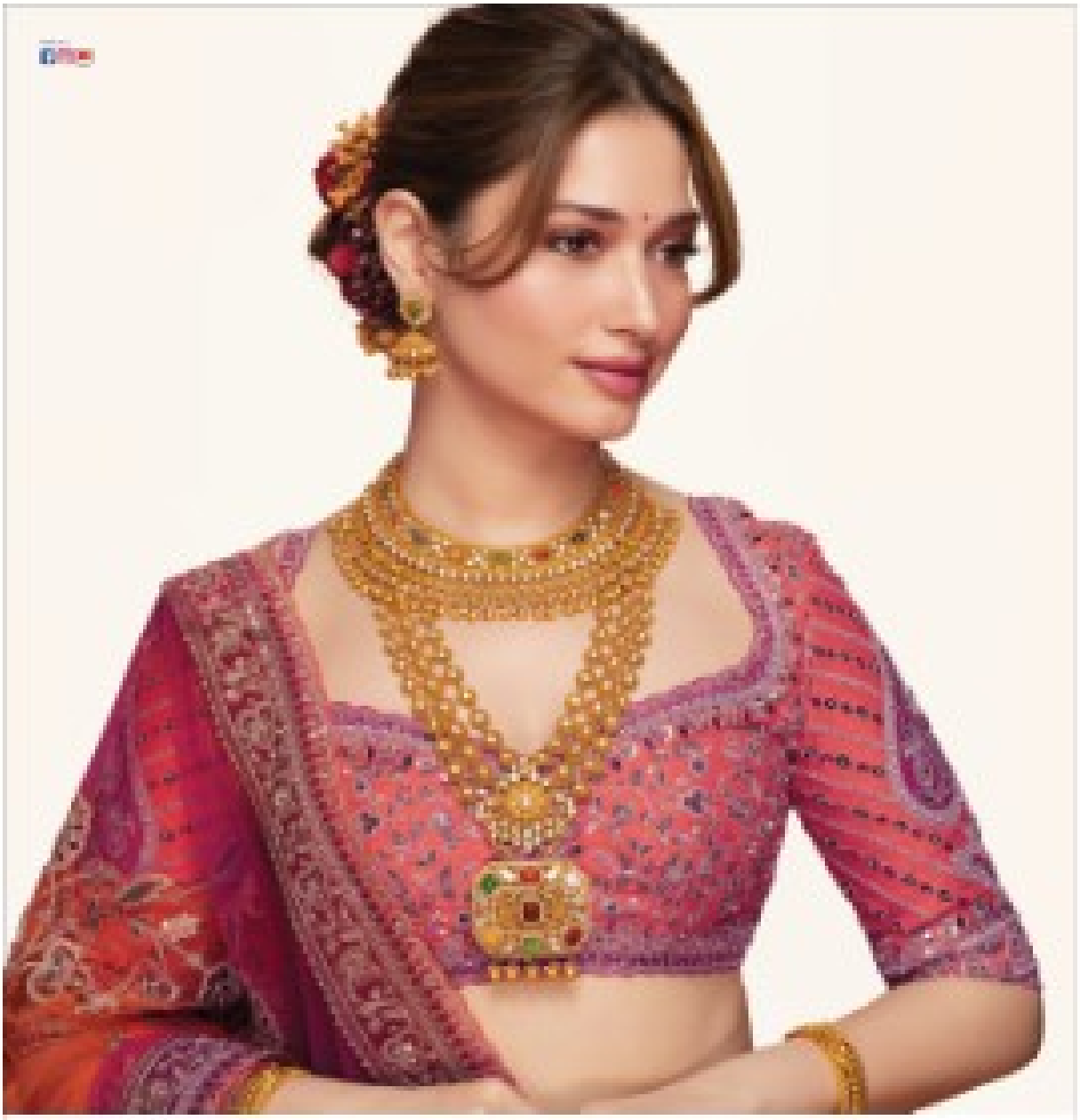
Indian spiritual philosophy describes this cosmic relationship through the concepts of Shiv and Shakti. Shakti represents energy, movement, and the dynamic force of creation. Shiv represents pure consciousness, the silent witnessing presence behind all activity. Just as a dance cannot exist without a dancer, energy cannot be fully understood without consciousness. The movements of nature, formation of stars, growth of life, and emergence of human awareness all unfold within a deeper field of consciousness.

Electricity flowing through a wire cannot always be seen directly, yet its presence becomes evident through its effects. Similarly, consciousness manifests in varying degrees throughout existence. Reducing existence entirely to atoms and particles oversimplifies the mystery of life. A machine may process information with extraordinary speed, but it does not experience joy, sorrow, wonder, or the feeling of being alive.

In moments of deep meditation, contemplation, or spiritual realisation, people sometimes experience a state in which the ordinary boundaries of time, space, and individuality begin to fade. Awareness expands beyond the narrow sense of the individual self and feels connected to something vast and universal.

Indic spiritual traditions describe this awakened state as the realisation of Brahmn, Shiv, or Cosmic Consciousness. Matter is condensed energy, but energy itself moves within the embrace of consciousness.

Ananda Marga is conducting Dharma Maha Sammelan at Ananda Nagar, WB, till May 31



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TIMES BUSINESS

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026

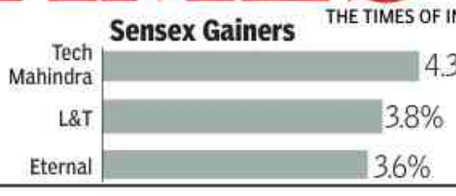
The Week That Was...

Equities Fall Over US-Iran Peace Deal Uncertainty

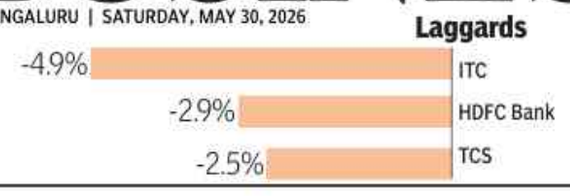
Uncertainty over US and Iran's peace deal prompted investors to lock in gains after previous month's rally. Equity benchmarks logged weekly and monthly losses. On Friday, sensex fell 1.4% to 74,776 and Nifty fell 1.5% to 23,548. Ten of 16 key sectors logged monthly losses

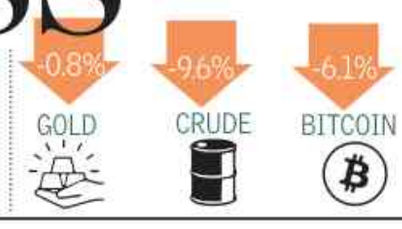
Sensex -0.9%

Sensex Gainers



Laggards





$4.95tn

Was the value of Taiwan's stock market on Tuesday, overtaking India's $4.92tn. The market cap rally was powered by gains of chip giant Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co.

Source: BSE, Reuters, screener.in

Economic outlook intact, but conditions apply: RBI

'GDP To Grow At 6.9% | West Asia War, Energy Prices Pose Risk'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday said the outlook for the Indian economy remains positive, even as it cautioned against global uncertainties, particularly geopolitical tensions, posing downside risks, according to its Annual Report for 2025-26.

"Going forward, India's growth outlook remains positive, though the West Asia conflict and the attendant risks of elevated energy prices, supply chain disruptions, financial market volatility, uncertainty surrounding global trade policies and weather-related disruptions could pose headwinds to growth and inflation in the short run," RBI said in its assessment and prospects chapter.

The central bank projected real GDP growth for 2026-27 at 6.9%, while flagging risks to the downside. "On the assumption that the adverse impact of the West Asia conflict would remain contained in the near-term, real GDP growth for 2026-27 is projected at 6.9% with risks tilted to the downside," it said, adding that "the healthy balance sheets of the corporate and banking sectors along with govt's continued thrust on capital expenditure bode well for India's strong growth trajectory."

On inflation, RBI said price pressures could inch up, with risks tilted to the upside. "Considering all these factors, CPI inflation for 2026-27 is projected at 4.6 % with risks tilted to the upside," it said. It also noted that "in its second review, the central govt in consultation with Reserve Bank retained the inflation target of 4% with a tolerance band of +/-2% for the period beginning April 1, 2026, and ending on March 31, 2031."

The report highlighted that agricultural prospects will hinge on monsoon performance. On fiscal consolidation, RBI said the Centre remains on track. "GFD is projected at 4.3% of GDP in 2026-27, reflecting the Centre's continued fiscal consolidation efforts in recent years," it said, adding that "the Union govt has set up an Economic Stabilisation Fund (ESF) to provide fiscal space against global headwinds."

The central bank also outlined its financial and technological roadmap, including expansion of digital initiatives such as CBDC, pilots on tokenisation of financial assets and scaling up Unified Lending Interface (ULI). RBI flagged external sector risks while indicating buffers are adequate to manage volatility. "India's foreign exchange reserves ($691.1 billion as of end-March 2026) remained adequate in terms of the standard metrics of reserve adequacy, including import cover of about 11 months and external debt cover of 90.3%, thereby providing buffer against adverse global spillovers," it said, signalling capacity to manage pressure on rupee.

INFLATION PROJECTED AT 4.6% FOR FY27

- **CPI inflation** for 2026-27 is projected at 4.6% with risks tilted to the upside
- Report highlights **agricultural prospects** will hinge on monsoon performance
- On **fiscal consolidation,** RBI said gross fiscal deficit is projected at 4.3% of GDP in 2026-27, reflecting the Centre's continued fiscal consolidation efforts in recent years

> Going forward, India's growth outlook remains positive, though the West Asia conflict and the attendant risks of elevated energy prices, supply chain disruptions, financial market volatility, uncertainty surrounding global trade policies and weather-related disruptions could pose headwinds to growth and inflation in the short run —RBI ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26

Infy CEO Parekh's pay rises 2.5% to ₹82.5 crore

Board Backs Nilekani's Reappointment As Co's Director; Shareholders To Vote At AGM

Shilpa.Phadnis
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Infosys CEO Salil Parekh's compensation rose a modest 2.5% to Rs 82.5 crore in FY26, according to the company's annual report. His fixed salary stood at Rs 8.5 crore, while variable pay and incentives totalled Rs 23.3 crore. The package also included Rs 50.7 crore from the exercise of restricted stock units (RSUs). In comparison, TCS CEO K Krithivasan received compensation of Rs 28 crore in FY26, up 6.3% from the previous year.

Infosys said Parekh's total compensation was 742 times the company's median employee remuneration after accounting for gains from stock awards. Excluding stock-option gains, the ratio was 289 times the median employee salary. The median remuneration at Infosys stood at Rs 11.1 lakh in FY26, up from Rs 10.7 lakh in FY25, reflecting an increase of around 4%.

The company said the average annual salary increase for employees in India was 11%, after accounting for promotions and other compensation revisions. Among the other top-paid executives at Infosys, Karmesh Vaswani, segment head for CPG, logistics and retail, received remuneration of Rs 24.2 crore, while chief legal officer Inderpreet Sawhney was paid Rs 21.6 crore. Separately, Infosys shareholders will vote on the reappointment of chairman Nandan Nilekani as a director liable to retire by rotation at the company's upcoming annual general meeting (AGM). Nilekani, who was initially appointed in 2017 and last reappointed in 2024, is eligible for reappointment, the company said. Based on his performance evaluation and the recommendation of the nomination and remuneration committee, the board has recommended his reappointment.

> Every company has a different legacy, different data, and different undocumented dependencies. Modernising brownfield systems is far harder than greenfield development. Enterprise AI faces the same truth
> **Nandan Nilekani** | CHAIRMAN, INFOSYS

In his letter to shareholders, Nilekani said trillions of dollars of enterprise capability remain locked inside legacy technology systems built for a different era, before cyber threats became a daily concern. "That technical debt is no longer a background cost. It has become a strategic liability: systems that grow more expensive to maintain each year and constrain the very agility AI demands," he said.

Nilekani said one of the biggest challenges in enterprise AI adoption is not the technology itself, but the complexity of enterprise context and legacy systems.

"Every company has a different legacy, different data, and different undocumented dependencies. Modernising brownfield systems is far harder than greenfield development. Enterprise AI faces the same truth," he said. He added that while Infosys would continue embracing AI-powered coding tools to improve productivity, software development still requires rigorous testing, validation, and resilient architectures designed for speed and scale.

According to Nilekani, the AI revolution has created urgency among enterprises to modernise legacy systems, eliminate data silos, address AI-identified cyber vulnerabilities, and reduce accumulated technical debt. "The preference will be to build versus buy for software. All this creates significant opportunities," he said, adding that one of the biggest opportunities lies in integrating AI models and agents with traditional enterprise systems.

He also noted that many enterprises continue to struggle with scaling AI deployments because of legacy architectures, organisational inertia, and evolving regulatory frameworks. "This is not an opportunity gap. It is a deployment gap," Nilekani said. He added that enterprises would require "root-and-branch surgery" by redesigning business processes, customer journeys, and operating models instead of merely layering AI onto existing systems.

Common platform to find unclaimed financial assets

New Delhi: The finance ministry on Friday launched a single unified online platform for citizens to search and trace unclaimed bank deposits, insurance claims, shares and mutual funds across the financial ecosystem.

The initiative is expected to enhance public awareness and improve ease of access to information, the finance ministry said. "The portal, accessible at https://www.unclaimedassetsportal.in, serves as a unified platform providing access to search facilities relating to unclaimed bank deposits, insurance claims, shares, dividends and mutual funds available across the financial ecosystem," it said.

The initiative, the ministry said, builds upon the nationwide campaign 'Your Money, Your Right', undertaken by the department of financial services in coordination with financial sector regulators, banks and other stakeholders to facilitate awareness, tracing and restitution of unclaimed financial assets. AGENCIES

HCG revenue rises 15% to ₹2,545cr in FY26

Bengaluru: Healthcare Global Enterprises (HCG)'s revenue for 2025-26 rose 15% to Rs 2,545 crore, compared to the year before. Fourth quarter revenue was up 11% at Rs 652 crore. Full-year net profit was down at Rs 13.8 crore, from Rs 44.4 crore in the year before. Profits were impacted by ESOP (employee stock option) costs, and one-time exceptional items pertaining to impact of the new labour code and a goodwill impairment, the company said. Adjusted for these one-time effects, net profit was up 25% at Rs 55.7 crore. HCG has launched a new cancer hospital in Hebbal in Bengaluru, with an investment of about Rs 129 crore. The new 110-bed facility introduces one of the world's most advanced precision radiation therapy platforms. TNN

Sebi fines Suzlon, promoters ₹29 crore

New Delhi: Capital markets regulator Sebi on Friday imposed penalties totalling Rs 28.95 crore on Suzlon Energy Ltd, its chairman and MD Vinod Tanti, promoter Girish Tanti and others for alleged accounting irregularities and misleading financial disclosures related to intra-group transactions involving subsidiaries. In a 96-page order, Sebi said Suzlon Energy's financial statements failed to present a "true and fair view" of the company's profitability, net worth, leverage, financial exposure and risk profile. AGENCIES

IIFCL logs 13% dip in FY26 net profit

New Delhi: State-owned IIFCL reported 13% decline in net profit to Rs 1,379 crore in FY26 as against Rs 1,590 crore in FY25. The reduction is due to foreign exchange loss, MD and CEO Rohit Rishi said. He added that govt has approved equity dilution in the company with Centre's holding to reduce to 75% "at an opportune time". TNN

Banknotes to get new security features, varnish for longevity

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Despite the rise in counterfeit currency being modest, Reserve Bank of India will upgrade banknote security through new features this year, even as it experiments with varnished notes to extend their lifespan.

The value of banknotes in circulation rose by 11.9% to about Rs 41.2 lakh crore at end-March 2026, while volumes increased by 10.5% to 17.1 lakh pieces, reflecting sustained demand for cash. Coin circulation also expanded, with value rising by 11.4% to Rs 40,814 crore and volumes up 4.5%.

The increase in currency demand, which pushed the currency-to-GDP ratio up to 12.1% from 11.7% in FY25, has been attributed to a strong preference for cash among individuals and small merchants despite the rapid growth of digital payments, according to an RBI survey.

Following the near-complete withdrawal of Rs 2,000 notes—of which 98.5% have returned to the banking system—the Rs 500 denomination has become the backbone of the cash economy. It accounted for 41.2% of total notes by volume and 85.5% by value, far outstripping other denominations. The growing dominance of high-value notes has coincided with a shift in counterfeiting patterns.

Value of banknotes in circulation rose by 11.9% at end-March 2026, while volumes increased by 10.5%, reflecting sustained demand for cash

The number of fake Indian currency notes detected rose to 2,29,746 pieces in FY26, from 2,17,396 a year earlier, driven largely by a 20.5% increase in counterfeit Rs 500 notes to 1,41,907 pieces. Counterfeit detections in most other denominations declined, with banks identifying 97.6% of all fake notes.

Despite higher circulation of currency, RBI's printing expenditure declined sharply to Rs 4,875.2 crore in FY26 from Rs 6,372.8 crore the previous year, as the central bank reduced its indent for fresh notes to 2.8 lakh pieces from 3 lakh pieces.

On the technology front, RBI is preparing to introduce upgraded banknotes with enhanced security features in a phased manner from mid-2026. It has also developed anti-microbial and anti-bacterial treatments for currency paper to improve hygiene and durability.

'Managing macro factors big priorities'

Mumbai: Chief economic advisor **V Anantha Nageswaran** on Friday said managing macroeconomic fundamentals such as the balance of payments (BoP) and current account deficit (CAD) has assumed greater priority for the govt as the West Asia conflict has triggered a global energy shock.

Speaking at an event on securitisation, Nageswaran said the conflict in West Asia had led to an energy shock, with prices rising because of supply disruptions linked to the Strait of Hormuz.

"In the current context of having to deal with energy prices, the energy shock, current account deficit (CAD) and the balance of payments (BoP), these have assumed much greater priority and urgency at this point," Nageswaran said. AGENCIES

RBI's income rose 26% to ₹4.3L cr over $ gains in FY26

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: RBI's record surplus transfer of nearly Rs 2.9 lakh crore reflects a year in which gains from dollar investments, forex market intervention and robust domestic bond income combined to lift RBI's total income by 26% to about Rs 4.3 lakh crore in FY26, up from Rs 3.4 lakh crore a year earlier.

A large share of the increase in income came from foreign sources, where income climbed 26.6% to Rs 3.3 lakh crore. Exchange gains from foreign currency operations amounted to Rs 1.7 lakh crore, reflecting interventions in which the RBI sold dollars at prices higher than those at which they were acquired.

Returns on foreign assets also improved, with the yield on foreign currency assets rising to 6.4% from 5.3% in FY25, tracking higher global interest rates, particularly elevated yields on American govt bonds. The central bank thus benefited from holding a sizeable stock of foreign assets in a period of tighter global monetary conditions.

Earnings Boost

Domestic income, too, expanded briskly. Interest earned on rupee securities rose by 37.7% to Rs 1.2 lakh crore. Holdings of domestic govt securities increased by 44.9% to Rs 22.6 lakh crore, as RBI undertook net purchases to manage liquidity and support market operations.

The balance sheet expanded by 20.6% to nearly Rs 92 lakh crore during the year, reflecting both asset growth and valuation gains. A significant contribution came from the currency and gold revaluation account, which rose by over Rs 8.7 lakh crore to Rs 21.7 lakh crore. The value of gold holdings increased by 63.8% to Rs 10.9 lakh crore. The central bank also increased its contingency provisions in line with the Economic Capital Framework, setting aside Rs 1.1 lakh crore—more than double the previous year's allocation. However, as a share of the balance sheet, the contingency buffer declined to 6.5% from 7.5%.

Review of RBI Act part of FY27 agenda

Mumbai: Reserve Bank of India has set itself an expansive agenda for 2026-27, combining a review of its governing statute with an ambitious push on technology, payments innovation and financial regulation. Among the headline initiatives is a review of the RBI Act, alongside major technological upgrades, including the rollout of the next-generation core banking system, e-Kuber 3.0. The central bank also plans to develop an alternative payments system and create a unified enterprise platform, while building an institution-grade artificial intelligence ecosystem to support central banking functions. TNN

India among top five markets for OpenAI's Codex platform

Shilpa Phadnis & Supriya Roy | TNN

Bengaluru: India has emerged as one of the fastest-growing global markets for OpenAI's coding platform, Codex. Adoption has surged nearly 27 times since the beginning of the year, while daily interactions rose more than 20 times by the end of April, according to Thomas Jeng, head of startups for Asia-Pacific (APAC) at OpenAI.

Jeng said India is now among Codex's top five markets globally by user count, driven by a rapidly growing base of developers and startups using the platform to automate software development and knowledge workflows. "Indian engineers comprise some of the most sophisticated builders in the world," Jeng told TOI. "They're using Codex in ways that we may not have anticipated. Teams are shipping products much faster, moving from what may have taken years earlier to just a few months before production deployment."

Codex, which initially started as a coding assistant, has evolved into a broader "agentic workflow" platform capable of automating long-running tasks, spawning multiple workstreams and coordinating sub-agents. According to Jeng, adoption accelerated significantly after the launch of the Codex application, which provided developers with a more user-friendly interface to access advanced AI capabilities. The comments come amid intensifying competition in the AI coding assistant market, where Anthropic's Claude Code has also gained traction among developers. While acknowledging that competing products entered the category earlier, Jeng said the adoption gap is narrowing rapidly.

> Indian engineers comprise some of the most sophisticated builders in the world...They're using Codex in ways that we may not have anticipated. Teams are shipping products much faster, moving from what may have taken years earlier to just a few months before production deployment
> **Thomas Jeng** | HEAD, STARTUPS FOR ASIA-PACIFIC (APAC), OPENAI

"The feedback we consistently hear is that Codex behaves more like a senior engineer or solutions architect," he said. "It performs more planning, reviews codebases more thoroughly and produces higher-quality outputs." The data also points to a widening role for Codex in India beyond software engineering. More than a quarter of Codex requests are now for non-coding tasks, reflecting growing adoption across research, documentation, workflow management and information synthesis. Users are increasingly relying on the platform to automate repetitive daily tasks, organise communication and streamline operational workflows.

OpenAI is also expanding its footprint in India through startup partnerships, hackathons, enterprise collaborations and venture capital alliances. Jeng said the company now works with dozens of VC firms in India through startup credit programmes that offer up to $50,000 in OpenAI credits globally.

"We've already distributed millions of dollars' worth of credits in India," he said, adding that the partnerships are designed to create a "win-win-win" for startups, investors and OpenAI.

The company is also deepening ties with enterprises and IT services firms, including TCS, Infosys and Razorpay, to expand deployment of Codex and other OpenAI technologies. Despite concerns around rising AI infrastructure and token costs, Jeng argued that AI economics are improving at the task level even as overall spending rises. "If companies give engineers unlimited tokens, costs will obviously escalate," he said.

Odisha inks $3.3bn chip substrate mfg unit MoU with Intel, 3DGS

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: India's semiconductor ambitions received a major boost after the Odisha govt signed an MoU with Intel and US-based 3DGS on Friday to bring advanced substrate manufacturing technology to the country. The Centre described the initiative as one of India's largest high-technology manufacturing investments.

The project, estimated at around $3.3 billion, will set up an advanced packaging glass-core substrate manufacturing facility in the Bhubaneswar-Khurda region of Odisha. The proposed unit will focus on advanced packaging glass-core substrates, high-density interconnect substrates and related semiconductor technologies. Union electronics and IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Odisha chief minister Mohan Charan Majhi, Intel CEO Lip-Bu Tan and other dignitaries witnessed the signing of the agreement.

Vaishnaw said investments by global semiconductor firms reflect growing confidence in India's semiconductor push and the govt's policy efforts in the sector. "Congratulations to the Govt. of Odisha, Intel and 3DGS on signing an MoU to bring substrate manufacturing technology to India. This will further advance the semiconductor ecosystem in India," the Union minister wrote on X.

The project will be implemented in phases over five to six years and is expected to create more than 1,800 direct high-skilled jobs, besides generating indirect employment opportunities across manufacturing and technology ecosystems. The Centre said the initiative builds on efforts under the India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) to strengthen domestic manufacturing. Substrates are a critical component in semiconductor packaging, helping connect and support semiconductor chips used in electronic devices. Industry executives have often described substrate manufacturing as one of the missing links in India's semiconductor value chain.

Weak monsoon worries rattle Dalal Street

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Reports that India is expected to see its driest monsoon in a decade spooked investors on Dalal Street on Friday. As a result, in late trades sensex fell sharply to close nearly 1,100 points (1.4%) lower at 74,776 points. HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank and Reliance Industries contributed the most to the day's fall in the index, exchange data showed.

The rebalancing of the MSCI EM Index, for which a surge of selling came during the last hour of trade, also aggravated selling. The session's four-figure points fall came despite the rupee strengthening against the dollar and crude oil prices slipping.

SC clears RIL of making illegal gain charge in 2007 RPL trading

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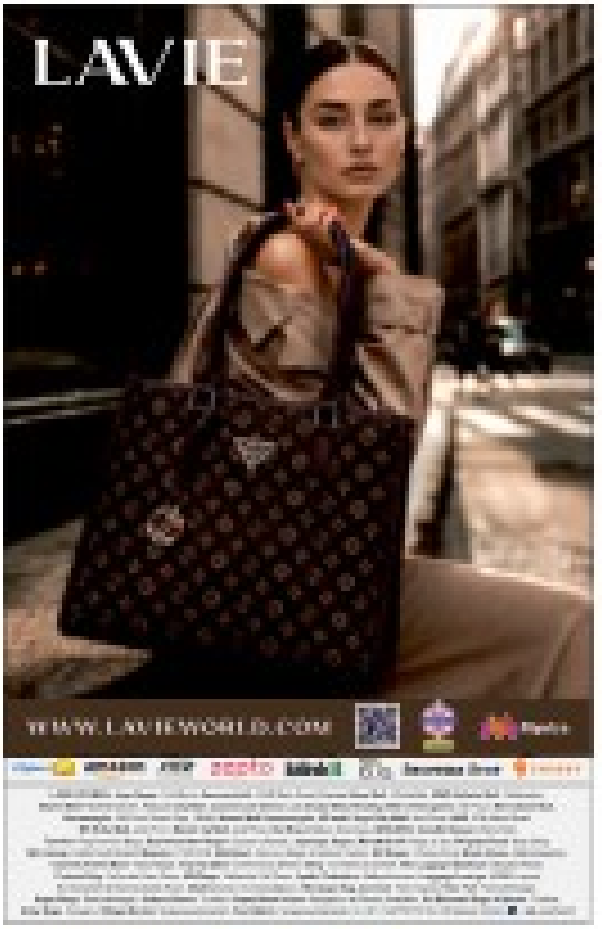
New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday cleared Reliance Industries (RIL) of the charge of making an illegal and undue gain of Rs 447 crore in 2007 while trading in Reliance Petroleum (RPL) shares by allegedly manipulating prices and set aside Securities Appellate Tribunal's order allowing disgorgement of the profit.

RIL had earned Rs 5,013 crore, Rs 4,500 crore from sales in the cash segment and Rs 513 cr from the trades made by the 12 independent entities in Nov 2007 future segment. RIL had entered into agreements with 12 entities to take up sales positions of 9.92 cr RPL shares in Nov 2007 future segment. Though the bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan absolved RIL of committing any fraud, it faulted RIL for attempting to capitalise on the absence of position limits for 'persons acting in concert' in 2001 Sebi circular by establishing agency relationships with 12 entities.

"We uphold the penalty levied by the WTM and SAT in its majority judgment as regards the violation of the 2001 Sebi circular," it said. However, the bench gave a major reprieve to RIL by setting aside SAT's Nov 5, 2020 judgment concerning finding of fraud by RIL.

RIL would be happy to get away with a reprimand as the court found that the corporate giant cannot be accused of breaching the Sebi (Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices Relating to Securities Market) Regulations. Writing a 136-page judgment, Justice Pardiwala said, "RIL cannot shield its actions behind the argument that the 2001 Sebi circular did not provide any position limits for 'persons acting in concert'. We say so because the very stipulation of position limits in the Circular creates an implicit duty to disclose such trades that may be in breach of such limits."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THE DJOKE'S OUT

Fonseca Knocks Out Novak

AFP

RUN, NOVAK, RUN: Novak Djokovic hits a forehand return during his third-round clash against Joao Fonseca at the French Open on Friday

THE TIMES OF INDIA AT ROLAND GARROS

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Paris: The talk around Roland Garros has been dominated by the next generation, a wave of teenagers drawing comparisons to the spring of 2006, when a trio of young stars staked their claim on the clay. On Friday evening, as the light softened over Court Philippe-Chatrier, Novak Djokovic — one of that original trio, now 39 and the owner of 24 Grand Slam titles — was pipped at the finish line by the gifted Brazilian teen Joao Fonseca.

In 2006, it was Rafael Nadal, coming in as defending champion, and Gael Monfils, the athletic Frenchman, who thrilled the home crowd by making the fourth round, that completed the threesome. This year, it was the impressive 19-year-old Fonseca, the 28th seed, who led the charge of the teen brigade. On Friday, the Brazilian stood opposite the Serbian superstar, who was bidding to become the first player to win 25 Grand Slam titles and the first man to win at least four titles at all four Grand Slam events.

Djokovic, making his 22nd straight appearance at Roland Garros, has advanced to the quarter-finals or better every year since 2010. The third seed, some two decades older than his opponent, and playing only his fourth tournament of the year, gasped for air, and stretched his body at every opportunity. He hung by a thread in the latter part of the encounter, not so much on the scoreboard, but physically, his bruised and taped together body.

Fonseca, who started slowly, trailing 1-5 in the first set, wasted no time in turning to the crowd and inviting them to be a part of the contest, but when it mattered he put his head down and went about his job like a seasoned pro.

Djokovic struck first in the decider, to take a 3-1 lead, Fonseca levelled and thereafter it was a spectacular highway chase, a contest between resolve and range, until the teenager broke in the 11th game. Then after four-hours and 54-minutes Fonseca claimed a 4-6, 4-6, 6-3, 7-5, 7-5 win.

Fonseca, whose ability to play from anywhere on the court on virtually any surface, has drawn comparison to his idol Roger Federer, motored long and hard. He used the dimensions of the rectangle, playing with over and underspin, keeping his shots flat and giving it air, but up against the will of the mighty Djokovic, who has dwarfed men and mountains, he battled to stay afloat.

Fonseca's rise through the ranks has brought something tennis hasn't seen in a while, a clearly visible travelling national crowd. Sometimes the canary yellow in the stands is scattered like on Friday, still a sizable Brazilian "away support" that seems to follow him across continents.

YUKI-MICHAEL PAIR KNOCKED OUT IN RD 2

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Paris: India's Yuki Bhambri and New Zealand's Michael Venus went down to the fifth-seeded Italian pair of Andrea Vavassori and Simone Bolelli 3-6, 4-6 in 78 minutes in the second round of the French Open men's doubles. The Indo-Kiwi team were broken at 15 in the fourth game of the first set and in the second, they looked like they were settling into the match when they warded off two break points in a long-drawn fifth game.

They were, however, broken in the seventh game, and the fancied Italians closed out on their second match point in the tenth game.

In the mixed doubles, Bhambri and Russia's Alexandra Panova will play the fourth seeds Briton Skupski and American Desirae Krawczyk in the second round.

INDIA WIN OPENER

Chelmsford (UK): Jemimah Rodrigues and Yastika Bhatia struck fluent half-centuries before debutant pacer Nandani Sharma starred with the ball as an experimental India defeated England by 38 runs to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match women's T20I series here.

India recovered from a disastrous start to post 188/7 and then restricted England to 150/8 at the County Ground here on Thursday.

Jemimah made 69 off 40 balls (1x6, 10x4s) and Yastika marked her return to the format after two years with a brisk 54 off 40 deliveries, her maiden T20I fifty. She smashed nine fours and one six. **Brief scores: India: 188/7 in 20 overs** (Jemimah Rodrigues 69, Yastika Bhatia 54; Lauren Bell 3-34) **bt England 150/8 in 20 overs** (Amy Jones 67, Nandani Sharma 3-34, Kranti Gaud 2-24). PTI

Suruchi claims gold

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Pune: It was a day of destiny for Indian shooters as they won two medals and lost a probable chance at the ISSF Munich World Cup on Friday.

Suruchi Singh started her international season with a bang with gold in the women's 10m air pistol, while Esha took silver, to win her second medal of the tournament.

Suruchi scored 242.1, while Esha shot 241.2 in the final. Burgaria's Miroslava Mincheva won bronze with 220.2. Both Esha and Suruchi were lucky to qualify for the final, despite shooting below average scores of 578 each. After the qualifications round the Indians were placed at 9th (Suruchi) and 10th (Esha). However, qualification round toppers, Chinese Taipei's Cheng Yen-Ching (586) and South Korean Bomi Kim (586) were disqualified for failing equipment check after the qualifications.

In the final, the Indians got off to an average start, lying at fourth and fifth positions after the first series of five shots. It was Suruchi, who shifted gears first with some 10.5s and a 10.8 in the second and third series. Esha followed with 10.6s but also hit some 9s, however, they didn't affect her much as her opponents too hit low scores in those series. Esha pushed Celine Goberville of France to climb up from fourth to third. Esha also tackled Miroslava to confirm her silver, while Suruchi dealt with Korea's Gaeun Choo .

Meanwhile in the men's 50m rifle 3 position event, India's top bet, Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar was disqualified from participating in the final after scoring 592 in the qualification. Tomar was disqualified after his rifle failed the equipment check post the qualification round.

"One of the screws in the butt-plate was out of the allowed limit by 3mm. It had passed the pre-match check, so I didn't realise it. I just hope this score is counted for the national ranking," Tomar told TOI.

'Provocation works against Gukesh'

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Oslo: When given a chance to exploit, Magnus Carlsen did. And world champion D Gukesh, on the eve of his 20th birthday, was at the receiving end. The Norwegian world No. 1, who had lost to R Praggnanandhaa in the previous round, did not give Indian fans a chance to taste a second successive win.

CHESS

He outplayed Gukesh with black pieces in the fourth round of Norway chess meet on Thursday.

Carlsen's coach and Vishy Anand's former second Peter Heine Nielsen said during a recent webcast: "Gukesh is really trying to push things. He also has a very sportsmanlike attitude to chess. He doesn't consider chess as a piece of art or an academic work. He is a sportsman, he tries to win. He puts the opposition under tremendous pressure even by taking a huge risk, which I respect a lot. But that style is exploitable. Magnus is exploiting it quite well when they play."

After beating Gukesh convincingly, Carlsen told Norwegian TV broadcast, "There was a surprise in the opening when he went for Nf3. He then played a little bit too ambitiously resulting in me wanting to prove a serious advantage but I am not sure if there was (a clear advantage for me). Eventually, he played himself in some sort of trouble. And I took over more and more." When asked about his surprising moves not getting the right refutation from Gukesh, the former world champion told Norway Chess webcast: "With another player, he could have probably played a little bit safer. but Gukesh doesn't have that style, he wants to go for it. Provocation works against him in a sense that you get a game. He needed to put the emergency brakes (which he did not)."

Champions League final takes wing

FLANKMEN KVARATSKHELIA, SAKA CAN TILT SUMMIT CLASH

Getty Images

Reuters

Budapest: Champions League finals are often decided by a single moment of magic and both Arsenal and Paris Saint-Germain are relying on their unselfish star wingers to conjure that up in Budapest.

Arsenal depend on a staunch defence but Bukayo Saka's return from injury near the end of the season boosted Mikel Arteta's team as they clinched the Premier League title.

Luis Enrique's PSG are a more thrilling attacking force but one player has stood out this season, above all in Europe: Khvicha Kvaratskhelia. Saturday's final at the Puskas Arena might hinge on which winger shines brighter.

Kvaratskhelia has been, arguably, the competition's best performer, scoring 10 goals, with seven of those in the knock-out phase. Despite his performances marking him out as a Ballon d'Or candidate, the left winger said he is trying to stay focussed and ignore the noise.

> You can see what it means to us, what it means to the fans. We're all so happy. It's a beautiful story and I hope it ends well in Budapest."
> —Bukayo Saka, ARSENAL

> We don't really think about who our opponents are going to be, we just prepare our game and give everything on the pitch."
> —Khvicha Kvaratskhelia, PSG

LIVE ON TV
Champions League **Final: PSG v Arsenal** on Sony Sports Ten 2 SD & HD and Sony LIV from **9.30 pm**

It must be difficult to stay humble after being labelled "Kvaradona."

Unpredictable and daring, adroit with either foot, a dynamic dribbler — Kvaratskhelia is sensational to watch without sacrificing efficiency or neglecting his defensive duties. The 25-year-old presses more than most players in his position — there is no room for passengers in a Luis Enrique side. Kvaratskhelia is keen to point out the quality of his team-mates at the French champions, including forwards Ousmane Dembele and Desire Doue, instead of taking credit himself.

Kvaratskhelia scored in last year's final as PSG hammered Inter Milan 5-0 to win the trophy for the first time. And Arsenal may be without first choice right-back Jurrien Timber because of a groin injury.

Arsenal's brightest talent, Saka, is similarly unselfish, putting in the hard yards to help his team stay unbeaten in Europe this season. He will need to track back to help shackle the Georgian. Saka made his first start in nearly two months against Fulham on May 2 following an Achilles tendon injury, helping the team claim a 3-0 win. "He's come back in the most important period of the season, and now his hunger is at the highest possible height," said Arteta. Yet just one more decisive contribution on Saturday might be enough to land Arsenal a first Champions League crown. AP

MESSI

MESSI WILL PLAY SIXTH WORLD CUP AFTER ALL

Buenos Aires: Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni sought to dispel doubts by confirming that most of the reigning world champions, including captain Lionel Messi, will be part of the squad that will seek a second consecutive title at the 2026 World Cup. It will be Messi's sixth world Cup.

Messi, about to turn 39, headlines the 26-man World Cup roster announced by the Argentine Football Association on Thursday.

Of those called up, 17 players were part of the team that triumphed four years ago in the final against France in Qatar. AP

ARGENTINA SQUAD
Goalkeepers: Emiliano Martinez , Geronimo Rulli, Juan Musso; **Defenders:** Gonzalo Montiel, Nahuel Molina, Lisandro Martinez, Nicolas Otamendi, Leonardo Balerdi, Cristian Romero, Nicolas Tagliafico, Facundo Medina. **Midfielders:** Giovani Lo Celso, Leandro Paredes, Rodrigo De Paul, Exequiel Palacios, Enzo Fernandez, Alexis Mac Allister , Valentin Barco; **Forwards:** Lionel Messi, Nicolas Gonzalez, Giuliano Simeone , Lautaro Martinez, Jose Manuel Lopez, Julian Alvarez , Thiago Almada, Nico Paz.

SC frowns at HC approach

▶ Continued from Page 1

A bench of Justices P S Narasimha and Alok Aradhe noted that she did not appear for the doping test and her explanation that she, being an MLA, was busy in assembly proceedings was not found to be satisfactory.

"What is concerning is that when the International Testing Agency's test is missed, it has a logical consequence, because Indian sports is integrally connected to world sports. If some kind of disqualification appears at the global level, it reflects on India. You did not give the whereabouts for the doping test and missed the first doping test," it said.

It expressed reservations on the approach adopted by HC in granting relief to the wrestler. "The way the HC handled the case is disturbing. The constitutional court should act responsibly as these are national and international sporting events," the bench said. The court was hearing an appeal filed by WFI challenging HC's order to allow Phogat to compete in the trials. Advocate Madhavi Divan, appearing for Phogat, submitted that women athletes face this problem arising out of pregnancy and she was not seeking any relaxation but just seeking opportunity to participate in the trials. She said that it would be a national embarrassment if she is prevented from taking part.

SNAP SHOTS

Sindhu ousted in quarters

India's PV Sindhu lacked the consistency required to trouble world No. 1 An Se Young for sustained periods, going down in the quarterfinals but ace men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty moved into the semifinals with a hard-fought win at the Singapore Open Super 750 badminton tournament in Singapore on Friday. Sindhu was beaten 21-17, 21-14 . Satwik and Chirag, the Asian Games champion and fourth seeds, came from a game down to get the better of Malaysia's Khai Xing Kang and Aaron Tai 19-21, 21-17, 21-13 in a gruelling contest.

Chinnappa moves into top-10: Indian golfer Trishul Chinnappa staged a great recovery on his second nine with five birdies in last six holes, to move into the top 10 after the first round of the $160,000 AM Green IGPL Morocco Rising Stars 2026 in El Jadida . He was tied eighth with three other Indians, Sudhir Sharma, Raghav Chugh and Syed Saqib Ahmed. They were three shots behind the leader Hoho Yue of Hong Kong, who shot 6-under 66. Like Chinnappa, Saqib also had a fine second nine with three birdies.

Kushwaha stars with hat-trick: The Indian men's hockey team opened its campaign at the U-18 Asia Cup 2026 with a dominant 13-0 victory over Kazakhstan in Kakamigahara, Japan, on Friday in Pool A. Captain Ketan Kushwaha led from the front with three goals, while Prahalad Rajbhar, Ashish Tani Purti, Ansh Bahutra and Shahrukh Ali registered a brace each in the comprehensive win. India will next face hosts Japan on Sunday.

Indian women blank Aussies: The Indian women's hockey team registered a 2-0 victory over Australia in the third match of the friendly series at the Perth Hockey Stadium on Friday. Sonam scored in the 36th minute, while Lalremsiami doubled the lead in the 49th minute.

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YASHIKA STEERS KUDIGE INTO FINAL

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Yashika KK's hat-trick helped DYES, Kudige secure a 4-0 victory over Hockey Belgaum in the semifinal of the Hockey Karnataka women's sub-junior tournament here on Friday. With the win, the Kudige girls advanced to the final, where they will take on DYES, Hassan, who battled past the gritty girls from Sports Authority of India STC, Madikeri, in the tie-breaker.

The match began with the first 10 minutes evenly poised, as both teams fought for possession. However, DYES, Kudige eventually opened the scoring in the 10th minute with Yashika sounding the boards.

HOCKEY

The goal gave DYES, Kudige the advantage, but Hockey Belgaum continued to put up a spirited fight and prevented further damage for much of the match. DYES, Kudige's ability to intercept passes and maintain smooth passing combinations proved useful. Towards the end, the Kudige girls broke the Belgaum defence and pumped three more goals in the span of nine minutes, with Pavana accounting for the fourth goal. **Results:** DYES, Hassan: 2 bt Sports Authority of India STC, Madikeri: 2 4-2 via shootouts; DYES, Kudige 4 (Yashika KK 10, 37, 46, Pavana 39) bt Hockey Belgaum 0. **Today's matches:** 3rd & 4th place: Hockey Belgaum vs SAI, STC Madikeri; Final: DYES, Hassan vs DYES, Kudige. – Jia Khosla

CUP OF JOY: Karnataka team celebrate their win on Friday

Karnataka triumph

Led by a fine show by the trio of Adithya Shenoy, Anshul and Samrath Mannur, Karnataka outclassed favourites Haryana 83-75 to win the boys title at the 76th Junior National Basketball Championship in Puducherry on Friday night.

Adithya, who won the most valuable player of the tournament award, scored 18 points, while Anshul and Samarth ended up with 19 points each. The Karnataka boys were off to a rousing start, leading 27-23 at the end of the first quarter. Changing ends, Haryana came back strongly as they edged ahead 20-18 in the third quarter. Karnataka boys responded to the challenge in fine fashion, preventing Haryana from mounting another comeback and pocketing the fourth quarter 18-17. Meanwhile, FIBA Asia president K Govindaraj announced a cash award of Rs 7.5 lakh.

The Karnataka girls lost to Tamil Nadu 54-58 in the bronze medal match, settling for fourth place. TNN

Results: Men (final): Karnataka 83 (Anshul 19, Samrath Mannur 19, Adithya Shenoy 18, Vijayendra 14, Harshan Yathish 11) bt Haryana 75).

Pooja betters Sr national mark

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Bengaluru: Rising talent Pooja Singh surpassed a two-decade-old meet record and the 14-year-old senior national mark to become the first Indian to win the Asian junior title in women's high jump.

The 19-year-old from Haryana cleared 1.93m at the Asian U-20 Athletics Championship in Hong Kong. In doing so, she surpassed Svetlana Radzivil's 2006 meet record of 1.90m and Sahana Kumari's national record of 1.92m. Sahana, who is at the event as team coach, guided Pooja.

ASIAN U-20

In the process, Pooja, who is supported by Olympic Gold Quest and trains under Uzbek coach Sergey Biran, also made AFI's cut for the Commonwealth Games, which was set at 1.92m.

Pooja has been in the form of her life. After bettering her personal best of 1.9m set in New Delhi last month, she went after the Asian junior record of 1.95m belonging to Kyrgyzstan's Tatyana Efimenko, but the young Indian narrowly missed eclipsing the record.

AFI

NEW HIGH: India's Pooja Singh celebrates her milestone gold in Hong Kong on Friday

This was Pooja's second medal at the Asian U-20, upgrading the silver medal won in 2023 with a clearance of 1.83 metres.

She won the Asian Championships in South Korea last year, clearing 1.89m.

Pooja began with the bar set at 1.8m and after clearing 1.82 also on her first attempt, she leapt above 1.87m on her first try. She then sailed above the 1.91m mark on her second attempt before clearing 1.93m on her first attempt and jumping off the crash mat in joy. She then went for 1.96 but couldn't scale it.

"I was expecting Pooja to break my record any time. So, it was no surprise today. She will clear 1.96m soon, today she narrowly missed that, especially on her second jump," Sahana Kumari told TOI.

India has so far won four gold, two silver and two bronze in two days of competitions. Nitin Gupta won gold in the men's 5,000m race walk, clocking 19:47.49s, and Amanat Kamboj won the women's discus throw with an effort of 52.24m. Rahul Jakhar won the decathlon with a tally of 7,185 points.

Sadhana Devi (silver, women's triple jump), Upkar (silver, men's decathlon) and Neeru Pathak (bronze, women's 400m) were the other medal winners on Friday.

Money Bags is best bet

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Prasanna Kumar-trained Money Bags, piloted by Trevor Patel, looks good to win the Sir Visvesvaraya Memorial Trophy, the feature event here on Saturday.

The two main threats to Money Bags are Efficacy (Suraj Narredu up) and Rodney. The former from Sulaiman Attallahi's stable is the second choice. The first race starts at 2 pm.

1. The Udhagamandalam Plate 1200M: Perfect Dream 1, Ark Emperor 2.

2. The Chettinad Stud Plate 1600M: Miracle Star 1, Golden Thunder 2.

3. The Elite Force Plate 1400M: The Archer 1, Rampage 2.

4. The Marilingaiah Memorial Trophy 1200M: Refined Aggression 1, Thessalian 2.

5. The Sir M. Visvesvaraya Memorial Trophy 1400M: Money Bags 1, Efficacy 2.

6. The Romantic Dance Plate 1400M: Bulletproof 1, Alamgir 2.

7. The Prince Khartoum Plate 1200M: Storm Shadow 1, Corinthian 2.

Day's best: Miracle Star.

Jackpot : 3,4,5,6 & 7.

Mini Jackpot : 4,5,6 & 7.

First Treble : 2,3 & 4 ; **Second Treble :** 5,6 & 7.

Centurion Aditi powers South End SC

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: South End SC rode on Aditi Rajesh's blistering century to register a 93-run victory against Century Cricketers in the KSCA senior women's T20 tournament here recently.

KSCA WOMEN'S T20

Opting to bat, South End SC got off to a flying start with openers Nishikha Charvi and Sanvi, putting up a 91-run partnership off 73 deliveries. After Nishikha's dismissal, Sanvi continued and added another 86 runs with Monica Patel. Aditi emerged as the standout performer, with a 62-ball 115, studded with 16 fours and two sixes. South End SC posted 197/2.

In reply, Century Cricketers struggled from the beginning. Skipper Thanmayi fought a lone battle with a 59 off 49 balls, but lacked substantial support from others. Century Cricketers were restricted to 104/2. In another match, Palar Sports Club, Kolar's bowlers were in top form, powering their team to a nine-wicket win over Sapphire CC. Priya Chavan, Saina Kapoor, Prathyusha Challuru, and Myra Jain claimed two wickets each to bowl out Sapphire for 35, a target Palar overhauled in 2.5 overs .

Brief scores: South End SC: 197/2 in 20 overs (Nishikha Charvi 35, Aditi R 115 n.o (62b; 16x4; 2x6) **bt Century Cricketers: 104/2 in 20 overs** (Thanmayi R 59).

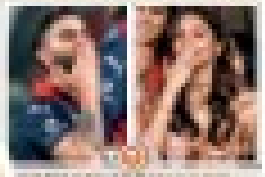
Vultures CC: 188/4 in 20 overs (Aadya 28, Jayashree Kuchabal 54, Prakruthi Gopalkrishna 50, Pooja Kumari 32 n.o; Tanvii Upadhyay 2-32) **bt Modern CC: 51 all out in 18.4 overs** (Chinmayi Shivanand 2-5, Bhumika R 3-4, Aadya 2-2); **Visweswarapuram CC (2): 80/5 in 18 overs** (Lalithya MC 35 n.o) **lost to Coles CC: 83/4 in 9.4 overs** (Gauri Methi 33; Pearl Muthamma B 3-33); **Sapphire CC: 35 all out in 17.1 overs** (Priya Chavan 2-7, Saina Kapoor 2-14, Prathyusha Challuru 2-3, Myra Jain 2-0) **lost to Palar SC, Kolar: 36/1 in 2.5 overs. Whirlwind Cricketers: 73/9 in 20 overs** (K Riha 2-9, Varsha Sulakhe 2-19) **lost to Jawans CC: 75/3 in 11.4 overs** (Zoya Khazi 32). **Neptune CC: 82/9 in 20 overs** (Jaysha Nagarakatti 26; Vaishnavi 3-9, Kavya BR 2-21, Niki Prasad 2-6) **lost to Rajajinagar Cricketers: 83/2 in 7.3 overs** (Prathyoosha K 37).

FINAL COUNTDOWN: RCB'S BIG NIGHT AWAITS

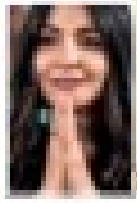
Cheers, tears & rivals: The RCB moments everyone talked about this season

A

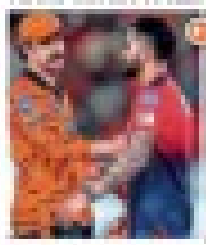
VIRUSHKA MOMENT FROM STADIUM THAT STOLE HEARTS



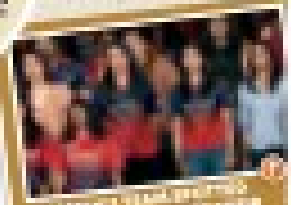
ANUSHKA SPOTTED WITH A COUNTER FINGER RING AT QUALIFIER 1



HEATED EXCHANGE: VIRAT AND TRAVIS EXCHANGE GLARES AND WORDS



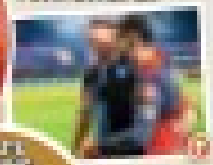
WOMEN'S TEAM SPOTTED TAPPING RCB AFTER FIRST HOME GAME



VIRAT & SIRAJ MOMENTS FROM THE SEASON

WHEN FANS COMPARED VENKATESH IYER'S LOOK TO VIRAT'S AGE GAL

BROMANCE: VIRAT AND ABD MOMENTS FROM QUALIFIER



VIRAT'S RECORD-BREAKING CENTURY

TIMES SPORT

THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026

WORKED HARD ON FITNESS FOR TWO YEARS WHEN I WAS NOT IN IPL: SARFARAZ KHAN

BHUVNESHWAR COMBINES OLD-SCHOOL VIRTUES WITH NEW-AGE VARIATIONS TO ACE POWER-HITTERS

BMW

EVERYONE LOVES A GREAT MATCH.

THE 3LWB OR THE X1. EITHER WAY, YOU WIN.

SHUBMAN'S TITANIC SHOW

Captain's Ton Takes Sheen Off Vaibhav Knock; GT In Final

Hindol.Basu@timesofindia.com

New Chandigarh: They call him the Prince, and on Friday he played like one. Not the ceremonial kind, but the kind who shows up when the kingdom needs him most, takes the sword off the wall, and gets on with it.

Shubman Gill didn't just chase down the target of 215 so much as he dissected it. On a night when Rajasthan Royals had once again ridden the exhilarating batting of Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, the Gujarat Titans captain offered a masterclass in a different art form altogether.

There was no frenzy, no desperate slogging, no sense of a side under pressure in a knockout game. Instead, Gill produced a majestic 104 off 53 balls (15x4, 3x6), an innings of timing, balance and authority, as Gujarat Titans stormed into the final with a seven-wicket win here.

The chase was a triumph of method over madness. Rajasthan's 214/6 had been built on moments of explosive brilliance, particularly from Sooryavanshi who scored 96 off 47 balls (8x4, 7x6). Gujarat's riposte, however, was built on something more sustainable. Gill and Sai Sudharsan (58 off 32b; 8x4, 1x6) hardly appeared to break sweat as they overhauled the target through proper cricketing shots, intelligent risk management and precision.

The opening pair have been the backbone of Gujarat's season and they rose to the occasion once more. Jofra Archer's first over leaked four boundaries, but there was nothing reckless about the assault. Archer was bowling at upwards of 145kph and yet neither batter looked hurried. By the end of his second over, Gujarat had plundered 29 runs without hitting a six. That set the tone.

A dropped chance gave Sudharsan an early reprieve, but Rajasthan's bowlers were largely reduced to spectators as the two openers collected boundaries at will. A boundary almost every over kept the asking rate comfortably under control. Gujarat reached 69 without loss in the Powerplay, matching Rajasthan's start while taking fewer risks.

The beauty of the chase lay in how uncomplicated Gill and Sudharsan made it look. The pair raced past 100 and then 150 without ever allowing Rajasthan an opening.

Sudharsan eventually departed for 58 in bizarre fashion, becoming hit wicket for the second consecutive match after his bat slipped from his hands and crashed into the stumps.

Nitin Sharma

1 **Shubman Gill** is the first batter to register two hundreds in the playoff matches in the IPL. His first was 129 off 60 balls for GT in the Qualifier 2 vs MI in Ahmedabad on May 26, 2023.

1 Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has become the first batter to manage 500+ runs in Powerplay overs in a single season of a T20 tournament, aggregating 521 runs at a strike rate of 233.63.

776 Run-aggregate at an average of 48.50, including a hundred and five fifties, in sixteen innings by Sooryavanshi is the second highest by a RR batter in an IPL season behind the 863 (ave 57.53) in 17 innings by Jos Buttler in 2022.

167 Runs put on by Sai Sudharsan and Gill for the first wicket, the highest ever stand for any wicket in IPL playoff matches, bettering the 159 for the first wicket between Mike Hussey and Murali Vijay for CSK vs RCB in Chennai on May 28, 2011.

—**Stats:** Rajesh Kumar

SCOREBOARD

RR: Y Jaiswal c Krishna b Siraj 1, V Sooryavanshi c Krishna b Rabada 96, D Jurel c Gill b Rabada 7, R Jadeja not out 45, R Parag c Rabada b Holder 11, D Shanaka c Buttler b Holder 3, J Archer c Buttler b Krishna 7, D Ferreira not out 38; **Extras: (w6) 6; Total: (6 wkts) 214; FoW:** 1-2, 2-9, 3-101, 4-109, 5-118, 6-172; **Bowling:** Siraj 4-0-42-1, Rabada 4-0-35-2, Krishna 4-0-42-1, Sundar 2-0-23-0, Holder 4-0-27-2, Rashid 2-0-45-0.

GT: S Sudharsan hit wicket b Brijesh 58, S Gill lbw b Archer 104, J Buttler not out 9, W Sundar c Ferreira b Burger 16, R Tewatia not out 17; **Extras: (b4, w11) 15; Total: (3 wkts, 18.4 ovrs) 219; FoW:** 1-167, 2-182, 3-201; **Bowling:** Archer 4-0-45-1, Burger 4-0-35-1, Brijesh 3.4-0-44-1, Deshpande 3-0-34-0, Punja 2-0-29-0, Jadeja 2-0-28-0

Result: GT won by 7 wickets

Decision on Hardik's future as Mumbai captain likely

▶Continued from P1

Unfortunately for both Pant and Pandya, the poor results of the teams coincided with their own indifferent personal form. After two below-par seasons, Pant decided to call it a day. LSG director Tom Moody announced on social media that Pant had requested the franchise to relieve him of captaincy duties.

"Rishabh approached the franchisee with this request and we have respectfully accepted it," Moody was quoted as saying in the media release. "These decisions are never easy. We are grateful for everything Rishabh has brought to this dressing room as captain. Our focus now is on collective rebuilding and restructuring to reach the best standards," the statement added.

TOI understands that Pant wants to focus on cricket with a crucial international season coming up. He was also recently removed as Test vice-captain, besides being dropped from the ODI side after spending two years on the bench with Team India.

"Pant wants to have a clear head going forward. He has staged many strong comebacks in his career. At the moment, his focus is to be the best cricketer that he can be and help his team win. A good international season can help his confidence going into the next IPL. He had bounced back from a poor IPL last year and had a stellar Test series in England. The LSG management believes if he can regain that momentum, that may help him going forward," sources close to the development told **TOI**. "It's better for both the franchise and Pant to take some time out and calm down before planning for the next season," sources added.

A formal announcement of Hardik's exit as MI captain may also not be too long in coming. "Yes, Hardik is done with MI and is exiting the franchise. He has had enough. He could either go to Delhi Capitals, who could trade their captain and India left-arm spinner Axar Patel for him, or he could be traded to KKR against Cameron Green or Varun Chakravarthy or Rinku Singh. However, don't rule out some other franchise being interested in him," a source told **TOI** on Friday.

Another source revealed that "During a mid-season review, a senior player suggested that India's young batter Tilak Varma, who has been with MI for a few years now, is the ideal person to be appointed captain next year. However, India's T20 captain Suryakumar Yadav and pacer Jasprit Bumrah, who made his IPL captaincy debut for MI this season in one game, are also MI captaincy candidates. The management is also likely to phase out a senior batter and give him a 'different' role. Basically, MI need a reset, and that refresh button needs to be pressed as soon as possible," the source told **TOI**.

While both Surya and Bumrah could be strong candidates, Surya's prolonged lean patch and the need to manage Bumrah's workload would have to be considered before a final call.

The buzz is that Pandya and Pant may not be the only two IPL captains who could end up losing their crowns. Some other captains may also face tough questions from disappointed managements.

RISHABH PANT CAPTAINCY RECORD IN THE IPL

	Played	Won	Lost	Winning %
Overall	71	34	37	47.88
For **DC**	43	24	19	54.65
For **LSG**	28	10	18	37.50
In 2026	**14**	**4**	**10**	**28.57**

HARDIK PANDYA CAPTAINCY RECORD IN THE IPL

	Played	Won	Lost	Winning %
Overall	70	37	33	52.85
For **GT**	31	22	9	70.96
For **MI**	39	15	24	38.46
In 2026	**10**	**2**	**8**	**20.00**

GT's Sai Sudharsan loses grip of his bat to be dismissed hit-wicket

VAIBHAV NOT A BLIND SLOGGER: PARAG

Times News Network

New Chandigarh: Rajasthan Royals skipper Riyan Parag heaped praise on 15-year-old Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, asserting the opener is not a blid slogger. Sooryavanshi finished the IPL with 776 runs after scoring 96 off 47 balls against Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 2 on Friday evening.

"There is one way where you just go and slog and get runs but he's not blind slogging. The kind of innings he played today, you can't do it with blind slogging. He calculates, he assesses conditions," Parag said after the match.

"He does everything and I still can't figure out how. I just hope he keeps doing the same for the country and bringing the country laurels and keeps playing for us and gets us that second championship."

Reflecting on the season, Parag said the team did a commendable job with the kind of resources Royals had. "There is a whole lot of positives but if I had to sum it up in a sentence or a few lines, we were not supposed to qualify. A lot of inexperience and a lot of transitions and combinations we tried and tested. But the boys showed a lot of character showed and it's a great start for a long journey ahead," Parag said.

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54% of deliveries in private hosps are through C-section

In Bengal, The Figure Is As High As 88%: Family Health Survey

Rema.Nagarajan
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Caesarean sections are the new 'normal' in private hospitals across India with such deliveries accounting for 54% of births in private facilities in 2023-24. In Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, over 62% and 52% of all deliveries are through C-sections, with these accounting for about 84% and 66% of births in private facilities. This was revealed in data from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) for 2023-24 released on Friday.

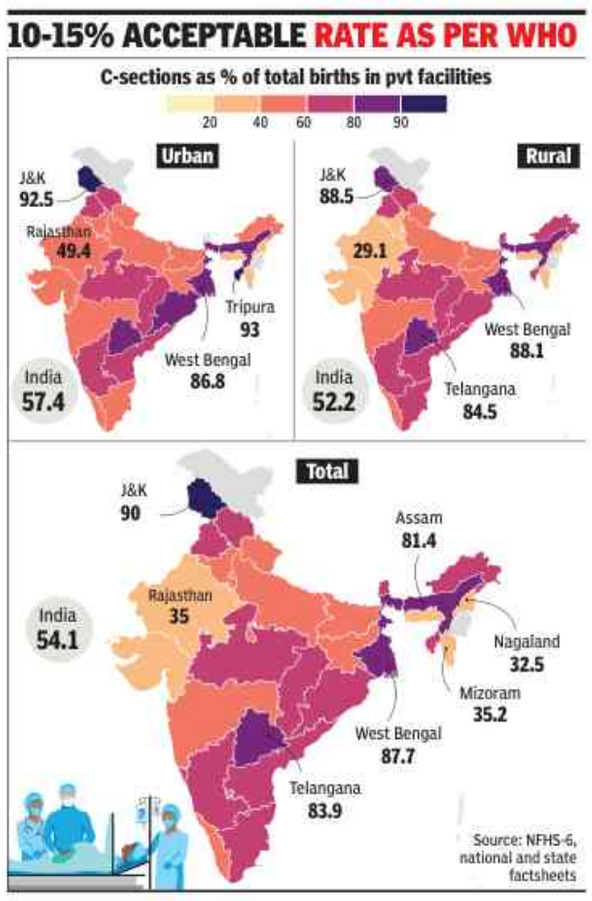
In 18 out of 27 states and Union territories of Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir, over half the births in private facilities are C-sections. India's C-section births have been steadily increasing over the years from 8.5% of births in 2004-05 to 17.2% in 2015-16 and then to 21.5%. In the latest report, more than a quarter of births (27.2%) are through C-section. The rise has been slower in govt hospitals, going up from 15.2% in 2005-06 to 16.9% by 2023-24.

In J&K, the C-section rate is as high as 90% in private facilities and almost 49% in govt facilities. Hence, though govt facilities account for 80% of births, C-sections account for more than half the deliveries happening in the UT. In southern states the proportion of C-section is high even in govt hospitals with more than 39% births through C-section in government facilities in Tamil Nadu and Kerala, 38% in Andhra Pradesh, over 34% in Karnataka and 48% in Telangana.

Though the share of C-sections in private facilities is as high as 81.4% in Assam and 76.8% in Odisha, the overall share of C-sections is relatively low because over three-fourths of deliveries take place in govt facilities where C-section rates are low — 18% in Assam and 22% in Odisha'.

While in most of India the problem is an inordinately high level of C-sections, at the other end are states like Bihar, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh where overall proportion of C-section deliveries is extremely low—just about 13% in Bihar and 16% in Jharkhand and MP. This is because of abysmally low proportion of C-section in govt facilities, just 2.7% in Bihar, 6.1% in Jharkhand and over 10% in MP. This would be more an indication of poor access to emergency medical procedures in govt facilities considering that the maternal mortality in these states is also high. This seems to be the case in Rajasthan, too.

While WHO considers 10-15% to be the acceptable C-section rate, most countries have rates well above this. For instance, proportion of C-section deliveries is over 32% in the US and 45% in the UK. In Brazil it is over 52% and over 42% in Latin America. But, in many Scandinavian nations with a focus on reducing unnecessary surgical interventions and where pregnancies are managed by midwives, like Sweden and Norway, the rates are 19% and 16% respectively. In France it's about 21%.



Dip in underage marriages, spousal violence cases

New Delhi: Even as it indicated a decline in underage marriage, NFHS-6 (2023-24) data showed that 20.1% women in 20-24 age group surveyed were married before legal age of 18 years**reports Ambika Pandit**. This marks a decline of a little over 3% in comparison to 23.3% in NFHS-5 (2019-21).

For men in the 25-29 age group, 15.9% had married before legal age of 21 years, down from 17.7% in NFHS-5.

The report said percentage of women aged 18-49 years who experienced spousal violence declined from 29.2 in 2019-21 to 22.3 in 2023-24. But, a much higher percentage of rural women (24.4) faced spousal violence compared to 17.5% urban women. This percentage was 24.2 for urban and 31.6 for rural in 2019-21.

NFHS-6 showed a wide gap in terms of percentage of underage female marriage in rural and urban India — 23.3% for rural and 11.4% for urban. In 2019-21, it was 27% for rural and 14.7% for urban India.

Full vaccination of children aged 12-23 mths rises to 87% from 84%

New Delhi: India has registered significant improvements in child health indicators, including immunisation coverage and nutritional outcomes, according to NFHS-6 data. Full vaccination coverage among children aged 12-23 months increased to 87.1% in 2023-24 from 83.8% in 2019-21.

The survey also recorded improvements in key child health indicators. Prevalence of acute respiratory infection symptoms among children declined from 2.8% to 1.9%, while prevalence of severe diarrhoea declined to 0.5%.

NFHS-6 also indicated progress in child nutrition outcomes. Stunting (low height for age) among children under 5 years declined to 29.3% from 35.5%. Severe wasting (too thin for one's height) declined to 5.2% from 7.7%, while underweight prevalence among children under 5 years registered a marginal decline to 31.8% from 32.1%. PTI

HC: Divorced daughter entitled to pension if she is a dependent

Bhopal/Jabalpur: Madhya Pradesh high court has said denying the status of a family member to a govt employee's divorced daughter is a violation of fundamental right to equality. It quashed home guards director general's order refusing the application of a retired district commandant, who died in 2017, for pension nominee, saying a divorced daughter is not a dependent.

HC said: "On going through provisions of the pension rules, 1976, it is found that a divorced daughter is not included in the definition of family. But, married daughters are included in the definition of family."

This was violative of fundamental rights guaranteed under Article 14, "as there is no difference between unmarried daughter, married daughter or divorced daughter". A divorced daughter "is also required to be treated equally with daughters mentioned in Rule 44(5) of Rules of 1976", HC said. TNN

Zubeen death: Event manager denied bail in HC

Guwahati: Gauhati high court Friday rejected a bail plea by Shyamkanu Mahanta, a key accused in singer Zubeen Garg's death, citing "risk of fleeing, tampering with evidence and influencing witnesses", **reports Mukut Das**.

Mahanta was manager of Northeast Festival in Singapore, where Zubeen died during a yacht trip on Sept 19 last year, a day before the event.

Mahanta had moved HC after being denied bail by fast-track trial court on April 30 on similar grounds. On Friday, trial court rejected the bail plea of another accused in the case, Zubeen's bandmate Shekharjyoti Goswami, citing the "risk of fleeing".

Pocso convict gets parole to rebuild razed Maha house

Nagpur: Nagpur bench of Bombay high court granted 25-day parole to a Pocso case convict whose house in Panvel was demolished during land acquisition for Navi Mumbai airport, observing that authorities repeatedly failed to act on his applications despite earlier judicial directions, **reports Vaibhav Ganjapure**.

He had sought parole to build a new house for his family, and to take care of the medical needs of his son. The petition stated Maharashtra govt acquired Gaikwad's house in 2013, with the promise of a compensation. But, the house was demolished in Aug 2021 without any compensation being paid.

Minister to states: Brace for El Niño, prepare agri roadmap

Vishwa.Mohan
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New Delhi: Union agriculture minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan** said on Friday that in the event of a poor monsoon, the country is fully prepared to deal with any eventuality and is ready with contingency measures. The steps include opting drought-tolerant and climate-resilient crop choices (such as millets and less water-consuming varieties of paddy and other crops) in vulnerable districts and other interventions like making available adequate input (seeds and fertilizers) to farmers.

Contingency measures largely include promotion of drought-tolerant crop varieties, weather-based agro-advisory services, efficient water management and location-specific adaptation strategies to minimise agricultural losses and safeguard farmers' livelihoods.

Chouhan also asked states to prepare their own agriculture roadmap based on agro-climatic conditions, available resources and local potential. He asked state govts to brace for challenging weather conditions in view of El Niño threat and assured them all help from central govt, asserting that there was adequate availability of seeds and fertilisers to meet demand during the upcoming sowing season.

El Niño during monsoon

"The latest climate model forecasts indicate that El Niño conditions are likely to develop during southwest monsoon season," IMD chief Mrutyunjaya Mohapatra said Friday, while further downgrading extent of overall quantitative rainfall during June-Sept monsoon. He said the formation is expected to gradually evolve from weak in June to moderate in July-Aug and strong in Sept, impacting entire rainy season.

Such a scenario, along with possibility of a slight delay in monsoon onset over Kerala against the normal date of June 1 and its subsequent progress over the rest of the country, may also delay the start of sowing operations as over half of India's cultivated area remains rain-fed. Though IMD a few days ago predicted May 26 (with a model error of +/- 4 days) as monsoon onset date over Kerala, it now expects it within the next seven days.

Ex-IAS officer's 80th b'day, London trip, reunion plans gutted in fatal house blaze

Abhay@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: On Saturday, retired IAS officer Dhanendra Kumar was to host a pre-birthday celebration at the Gymkhana Club ahead of his 80th birthday on June 6, surrounded by friends and family members. Days later, he and his wife and son were expected to fly to London.

But on Wednesday night, days before he was to blow out the candles on his big day, an air conditioner exploded in his Delhi home, filling the rooms with smoke and fire so fierce that he never made it.

His son Gaurav, a businessman based in London, had arrived in Delhi just a few days earlier to accompany his father on the trip. His daughter and her two children were also expected to join them there before returning to India with parents.

"Hours before the incident, the family was sitting at the dining table discussing their plans. Later, the father and son retired to their respective rooms," said Kumar's manager, Abhishek.

Rajesh Mehta
A false ceiling fuelled the fire

Gaurav was on phone with his wife in London when the indoor unit of the AC in his room caught fire.

The false ceiling quickly fuelled the fire, which jumped and began to devour the furniture. Gaurav rushed out to rescue his father and mother, who uses a wheelchair. The smoke and fire crossed the dining room and began to billow into the adjoining room of his father, who was in toilet.

"We kept calling out to him. He responded not once, but twice. But the moment he came out, he collapsed," said another staffer, Deepak.

Driver killed as convoy ferrying rice in Manipur hit by gunmen

Imphal: A truck driver from Bengal transporting rice for Food Corporation of India (FCI) was killed on Friday while a police constable injured in Manipur's Ukhrul district as unidentified gunmen opened fire on a convoy ferrying food supplies, **reports Ngathingkhui Jagoi**.

The convoy, travelling from Imphal to Ukhrul along NH-202 under security escort, was attacked after it resumed its journey following a road blockade by protesters demanding release of 14 hostages held by Naga groups. Forces used tear gas to remove the protesters and clear the road. Nitish Das, (65), died of bullet injuries.

CM Yumnam Khemchand Singh condemned the attack as a "cowardly act", condoled the driver's death and said the ambush appeared to have been carried out by vested interests to derail BJP govt's initiatives to restore normalcy in the state scarred by ethnic strife for over three years.

CBI files chargesheet against 16 in Reliance ADAG case

Mumbai: CBI filed the first chargesheet in one of the Reliance ADA Group (ADAG) cases in a special court in Mumbai Friday against 16 accused, including Reliance Communications Limited company, **reports Vijay V Singh**.

The chargesheet pertains to the alleged misuse of the Rs 1,200-crore term loan sanctioned by the State Bank of India, the Rs 500 crore Letter of Credit facilities sanctioned by Bank of Maharashtra, and the Rs 350 crore Letter of Credit facilities sanctioned by the erstwhile Syndicate Bank

CBI also named five senior executives of the company, along with 10 bank officials from the State Bank of India, Bank of Maharashtra, and the erstwhile Syndicate Bank in the chargesheet. The CBI has accused them of criminal conspiracy, cheating, criminal misappropriation, criminal misconduct, and corruption.

CBI issued a press release Friday stating, "The investigation in the seven RCs (FIRs) filed by CBI to investigate the alleged fraud committed by Anil Ambani-led Reliance Group companies is being monitored by Hon'ble Supreme Court."

CBI said that it had registered an FIR after receiving a complaint "from SBI against Reliance Communications Ltd and Anil D Ambani for allegedly causing a loss of Rs 2,929.05 crore to the bank."

The CBI alleged that the investigation in the case has been kept open to probe other loans sanctioned by the consortium banks and to ascertain the role of other conspirators involved in the alleged diversion and misappropriation of public funds. Supplementary chargesheets are expected to be filed soon in the case.

CBI alleged that rupee term loans were sanctioned to Reliance Communications Ltd by a consortium of 11 banks led by State Bank of India.

75-year-old dies of starvation after hubby slips & dies in Nagpur house

Nagpur: A retired defence employee and his bed-ridden wife were found dead in their locked home at Mhada Colony in Davlamethi town on Friday, police said, **reports Soumitra Bose**.

The couple, who were married for over 40 years, met a tragic end with the husband dying first, leaving his helpless, bed-ridden wife to succumb days later to dehydration, starvation, and extreme summer heat, police said.

The bodies of Gangadhar Bhonghade, 77, and his wife, Kaushalya, 75, were found after their son-in-law Mohammad Ghouse was alerted by the stench emanating from the locked house and neighbours broke open the door.

Police believe Gangadhar, whose body was found in kitchen, slipped and fell in the kitchen, sustaining a fatal injury. The wife's body was found in bedroom. Police said newspapers dated May 27, 28, and 29 piled up outside their house indicating the tragedy began unfolding around the night of May 26. "Gangadhar's body was in an advanced state of decay," cops said.

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Shrey Parikh, a 14-yr-old Indian-American student from California, wins Scripps National Spelling Bee after he spelt 32 of 35 words correctly in 90 seconds, **INSIDE JACKET**

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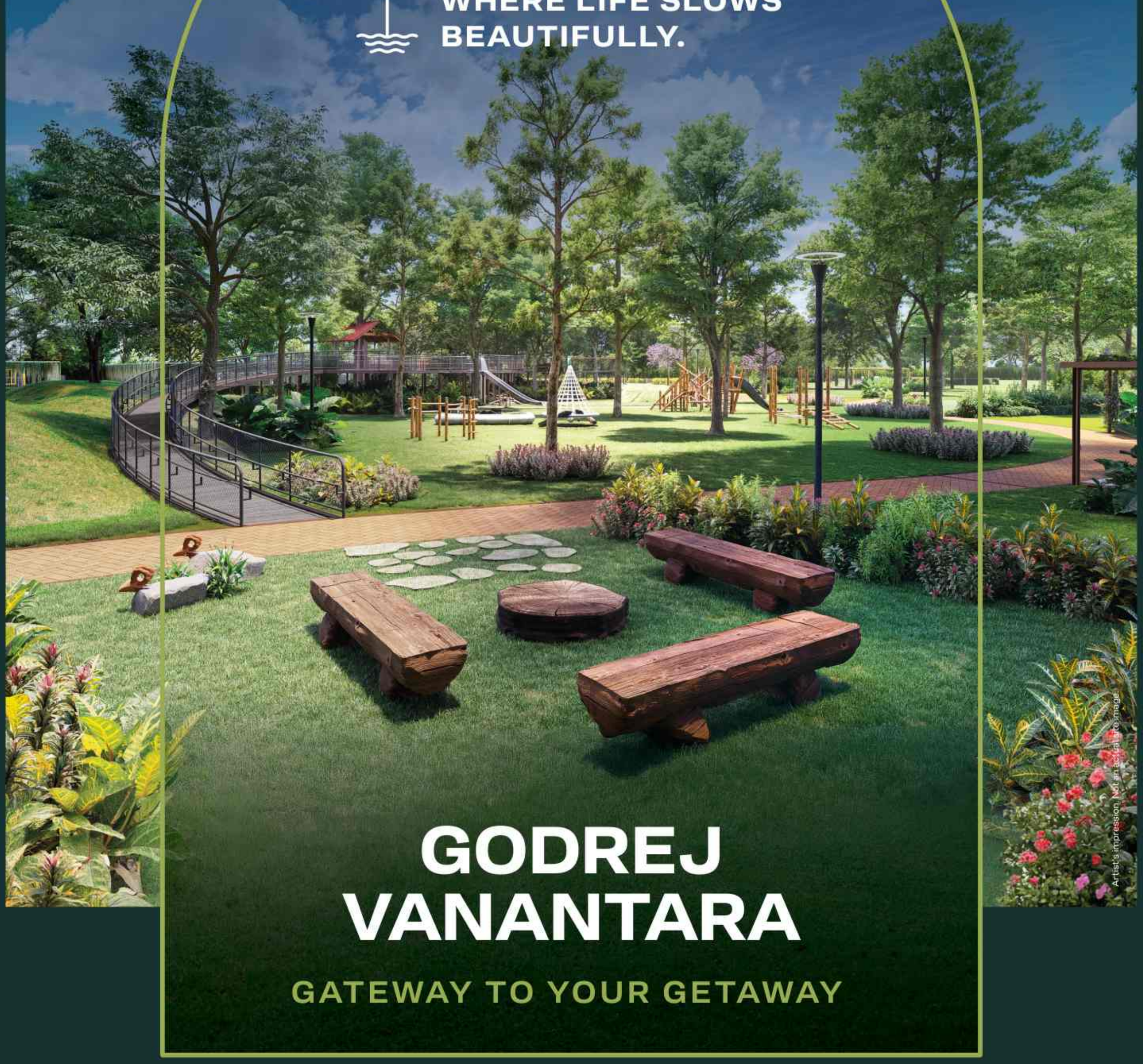

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President Donald Trump believes India's importance is now; only 1% work remaining on trade deal, says US ambassador Sergio Gor in Delhi

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THE TIMES OF INDIA, BENGALURU | SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2026

UK POLICE SAY REVIEWING VIDEO FOOTAGE WHICH SHOWS HELEN MIRREN BEING SUBJECTED TO ANTISEMITIC ABUSE

THE LESS YOU TALK, THE MORE YOU'RE LISTENED TO — PAULINE PHILLIPS

TOM HARDY 'WAS NOT FIRED' FROM 'MOBLAND' AND DISCUSSIONS ARE UNDERWAY FOR HIS RETURN: REPORTS

Trump huddles with aides for final call on war in Iran

Tehran Says Have No Trust In Words, Will Judge By Actions

Cairo: US President Donald Trump said he would make a final decision on Friday over a deal with Iran to extend their ceasefire that would need to include opening the Strait of Hormuz and dismantling Tehran's capacity to make a nuclear weapon. "I will be meeting now, in the Situation Room, to make a final determination," he said, referring to the White House's nerve centre for monitoring global crises. Sources had said a deal was in the offing to extend a truce in place since early April for another 60 days to allow oil and gas shipments to resume through the strategic waterway while negotiators tackle tricky issues such as Iran's nuclear program.

"Iran must agree that they will never have a Nuclear Weapon or Bomb. The Hormuz Strait must be immediately open, no tolls, for unrestricted shipping traffic, in both directions," Trump said, adding that nuclear material would be "unearthed" by the US.

Earlier, Iran's top negotiator Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf had sounded skeptical. "We do not trust guarantees and words, only actions are the criterion. No action will be taken before the other side acts," Qalibaf said in a social media post, without elaborating. "The winner of any agreement is the one who is better prepared for war the day after." Iran's semi-official Fars news agency, citing sources, said there was a "mixture of truth and falsehood" in Trump's comments which were an "attempt to portray a fabricated victory."

After the US lifts its blockade on Iranian ships, the strait would be reopened under Tehran's arrangements, Fars said. There was no provision to destroy nuclear materials in the sides' Memorandum of Understanding, the agency said, though there was agreement to release $12 billion from Iran's frozen assets. Oil prices fell and stocks rose on Friday over the potential deal.

In his post on Truth Social, Trump said mines would be removed from the strait and ships trapped there may start to go home: "Say HELLO to your wives, husbands, parents, and families from me, your favourite President!" He added that no money would be exchanged "until further notice" — a possible reference to Iran's demands for toll payments in the strait, war damage reparations or a release of Iranian funds frozen abroad.

Kazakhstan has signalled it is willing to take Tehran's stockpile of uranium enriched close to weapons-grade levels if the US reaches a deal with Iran, the head of the UN nuclear watchdog, Rafael Grossi, told the Financial Times. Kazakhstan hosts an internationally controlled bank of low-enriched uranium to ensure fuel supplies for power stations in IAEA member states. REUTERS

REUTERS

Damaged buildings at the site of an Israeli strike in Tyre, Lebanon, on Thursday

Iran reports reject Trump's 'deal' terms

Iran's Fars news agency cited sources Friday as saying Trump's latest comments on a potential deal were a "mixture of truth and lies". "Trump claimed that Iran was obligated to open the Strait of Hormuz without tolls, even though no such clause appears in the text of the agreement," Fars said. On his assertion that Washington and Tehran would coordinate on destroying Iran's enriched uranium, Fars said: "Well-informed sources emphasised that not only does this not appear in the MOU, but this claim is fundamentally baseless." They added the destruction of Iran's nuclear material is also not included. AFP

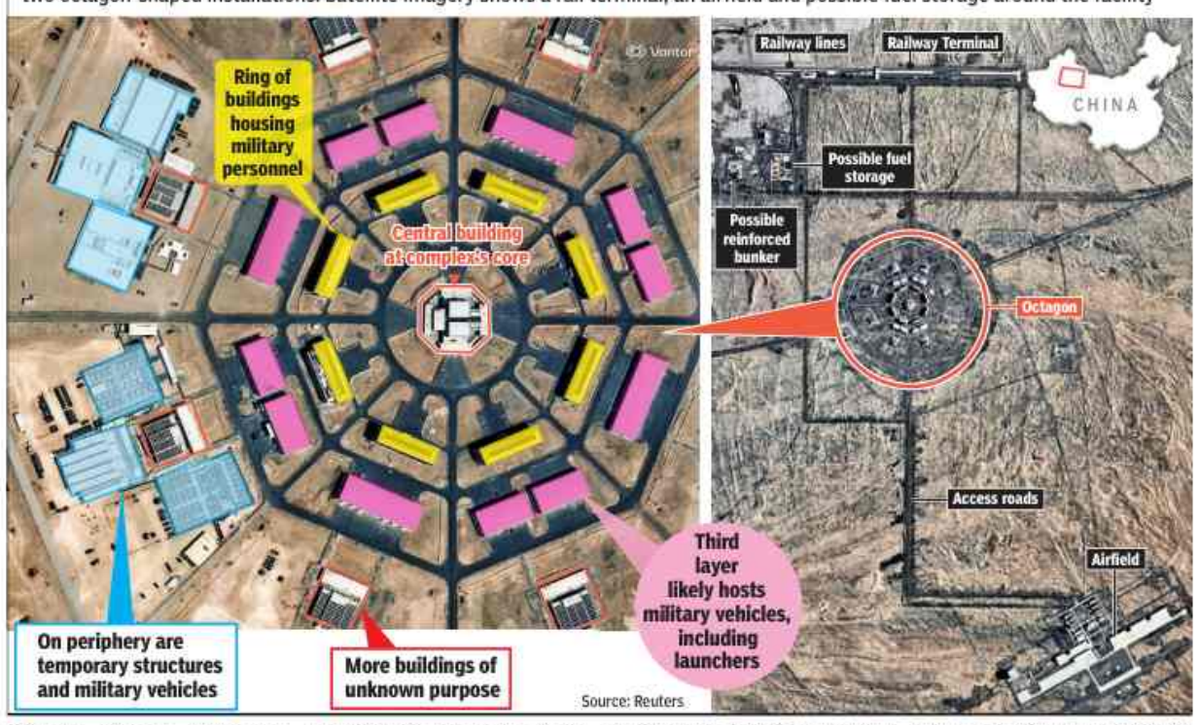
Pak's foreign min meets Rubio in US

Pakistan's foreign minister Ishaq Dar met US secretary of state Marco Rubio in Washington DC on Friday amid American demand that countries mediating the peace talks with Iran join the Abraham Accords. Rubio said he thanked Dar for the role Pakistan continues to play in advancing peace in West Asia. "We agreed upon the importance of working together to further strengthen a meaningful partnership for better security and more prosperity for our nations," Rubio said. State department spokesman Tommy Pigott said Rubio expressed condolences for the victims of terror attack in Quetta. PTI

China Building Launch Pads Near N-Missile Silos

BEIJING'S SHIELD: CHINA'S BID TO SURVIVE FIRST STRIKE

China has built more than 80 launch pads and three octagon-shaped installations in its northwest. The infrastructure is centred on two octagon-shaped installations. Satellite imagery shows a rail terminal, an airfield and possible fuel storage around the facility



Source: Reuters

In a remote Chinese desert, a vast military complex is taking shape that some security scholars say appears built to ensure no American first strike on China's nuclear arsenal could reliably knock out Beijing's ability to hit back. China's nuclear missiles can already reach any American city. Now, satellite images show Beijing is building a sprawling web of launch pads, bunkers and communications nodes near the isolated nuclear silos that hold the Chinese military's longest-range missiles.

The ability to protect its desert silos is key to China's stated goal of forging a minimal but credible nuclear deterrent — a policy grounded in the capacity to retaliate if it is struck first. While the People's Liberation Army (PLA) can fire nuclear weapons from submarines and aircraft, the silo fields in the northwestern Xinjiang region and Gansu province are the core of its nuclear forces.

A cornerstone of China's doctrine is its "no first use" policy. Xi this month warned US President Donald Trump that mishandling of their countries' disagreements over Taiwan, which China claims as its territory, could lead them to a "dangerous place".

Octagons in desert

The new desert infrastructure is centred on two octagon-shaped installations built over the past six years in eastern Xinjiang. Both are southwest of the Hami nuclear silo fields – one is about 140 kilometres away, the other some 230 kilometres. Exercises involving large military vehicles occurred around the northern octagon this month and during April, the images show.

Satellite images show the octagon structures contain housing for personnel and large military vehicles. They are flanked by armoured bunkers and fortified weapons-storage areas, as well as airfields and railheads that link the octagons to the Hami silos.

Five security scholars interviewed by Reuters agreed the infrastructure broadly could support China's nuclear programme, as well as other military purposes. But they cautioned that key details remain unknown — including the weapons China might deploy at the launch pads and whether the octagon structures house truck-mounted ballistic missiles or facilities for fitting nuclear warheads.

US officials and arms-control analysts say China is expanding and improving its nuclear weapons capabilities faster than any other nation. The latest Pentagon report on China's military modernisation says the country's warhead production has slowed but it is on track to field 1,000 warheads by 2030. The Dec report estimated China is likely to have loaded 100 intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) across its three main silo fields.

China has also been strengthening its early-warning system, according to US officials. The system can detect an incoming ICBM within 90 seconds of launch and alert a command centre within three to four minutes, according to the Pentagon — sufficient time for China to fire its own silo-based weapons before they are hit.

Defence sets China apart

Significantly, each octagon sits at the core of a network of dirt roads and conduits that stretch far into the desert. These routes connect to the concrete pads. The pads could be used to deploy mobile air-defence missiles, electronic warfare nodes or, from some of the larger ones, road-mobile ICBM launchers, three security scholars said. Hans Kristensen, director of the Federation of American Scientists' Nuclear Information Project, said while it was difficult to conclude how the various installations would be used, "it is hard to rule anything out".

The extent of the defensive network near its silos potentially sets China apart from the other major nuclear powers. The Unites States and Russia — whose warhead stockpiles and deployed weapons far exceed Beijing's — rely on a combination of sheer numbers of silos, their relative isolation and hardened construction to deter a first strike, rather than extensive missile defence, Kristensen said. "I've never seen anything quite like it," Kristensen said. "It's an extraordinary effort." REUTERS

Russian drone targeting Ukraine hits building in Romania, 2 hurt

Romania accused Russia of a "serious and irresponsible escalation" after a drone entered its airspace early on Friday and crashed into an apartment building, injuring two people. The incident was the most serious of its kind for the eastern-flank Nato member since Moscow invaded neighbouring Ukraine more than four years ago and drew an immediate response from leaders in the region.

It follows a series of incursions across the Baltic states, Finland and Poland that have grown in intensity as the warring parties respond by trying to jam and spoof drones sending them to neighbouring countries. "Russia's war of aggression has crossed yet another line," European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said in a post on X. The European Union is preparing a fresh package of Russian sanctions to increase the pressure on Moscow, she said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said that it was too early to say if the drone was Russian and suggested it could have been a Ukrainian drone. "Who in Romania says that this is a Russian drone?" Putin asked reporters in Kazakhstan. "No one can say what the origin of this or that drone is until an examination has been carried out," he said.

Romania's defence ministry said radar systems tracked the drone from its border with Ukraine to the eastern town of Galati, where it hit the rooftop of an apartment building, according to a statement. The crash sparked a fire. Two F-16 fighter jets were scrambled to track drones flying near the border with Ukraine , the ministry said. REUTERS

AP

Fire on top of block of flats after a drone crash caused an explosion in Galati, Romania, on Friday

An Indian-American wins Spelling Bee contest, again

Washington: Shrey Parikh, a 14-year-old Indian-American student from California, on Friday won the Scripps National Spelling Bee after he spelt 32 of the 35 words correctly in 90 seconds. Parikh, an eighth grade student, spelt 'Bromocriptine' correctly in the 90-second spell-off beating seventh grader 12-year-old Ishaan Gupta from New Jersey. Twelve-year-old Sarv Dharavane from Georgia finished third.

Parikh also beat the previous spell-off record set in 2024 by Bruhat Soma, who spelled 29 out of 30 words correctly in the spell-off. "Spelling fast is what I do every day," Shrey said. Parikh, who was also a finalist in 2024, takes home $50,000, a commemorative medal, the Scripps Cup, as well as $2,500 from Merriam-Webster, $1,000 in flight credits from Delta and $400 of reference works from Encyclopaedia Britannica.

The desi stranglehold with spelling has reached such levels that they are now asking kids to spell names of Indian cities: Parikh had to tackle Bhubaneshwar. Balu Natarajan was the first Indian origin student to win this competition in 1985, which started in 1925. Indian origin students have dominated the competition and won titles over the past four decades. PTI

Blue Origin probes rocket explosion, warns about wreckage washing ashore

Reuters

The New Glenn rocket exploded during an engine-firing test

Cape Canaveral: Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin is assessing damage to its launch pad after a rocket exploded during a test firing, creating a giant orange fireball seen and felt for miles around. The company fuelled the massive New Glenn rocket Thursday night, hoping to briefly ignite the engines ahead of a satellite launch next week. But the 321-foot, rocket blew up, taking part of the pad with it. Emergency officials on Friday warned the public to avoid any wreckage that might wash ashore and to instead call 911.

Named after John Glenn, the first American in orbit, New Glenn is the rocket that Blue Origin plans to use to launch landers to the moon under Nasa's Artemis programme that aims to build a base near the moon's south pole. None of the 48 Amazon Leo satellites were on board when the rocket exploded.

Within 12 hours of the explosion, SpaceX launched more Starlinks to orbit Friday morning. While SpaceX CEO Elon Musk has two pads in action, Blue Origin has just one pad - in Florida. Its smaller New Shepard rockets soar from Texas, skimming space for a few minutes with tourists and science experiments. Those suborbital hops were paused in Jan so the company could focus on New Glenn and upcoming moonshots. All that is now on hold, pending the probe into the explosion. AP

23-year-old Indian student found dead in Canada

Ottawa: A 23-year-old woman from India, who came to Canada on a student visa, was found dead earlier this month inside a home in Niagara Region.

The Indian Consulate in Toronto said in a social media post that it was "deeply saddened" to learn about the death of Indian international student Vidhi Megha in St Catherine, Niagara. "We convey our deepest condolences to the bereaved family and solidarity on this tragic loss. The Consulate is in touch with the family members in India and Canada and also the funeral home and is providing all support and assistance to the family, including for transportation of the mortal remains to India," the consulate said.

According to CTV News, officers were called to the area of Lakeshore Road and Lake Street in Niagara Region on May 15 to reports of two people without vital signs. They discovered 23-year-old Vidhi Megha dead inside a residence. Police have not released a cause of death, according to the report. Previously, investigators confirmed that 40-year-old Joshua St. Omer of St. Catharines has been charged with second-degree murder regarding the incident, CTV News reported. PTI

Sikh's murder conviction in UK triggers storm over carrying kirpan in public

Naomi Canton

London: British-born Sikh Vickrum Singh Digwa was convicted this week of murdering 18-year-old Southampton University student Henry Nowak with a 21cm kirpan, a verdict that ignited political demands to ban carrying the ceremonial dagger in public spaces even for religious reasons.

The ruling, delivered by a jury at Southampton Crown Court, also sparked accusations of two-tier policing over officers' treatment of the victim, based on Digwa's now-disproven claim that he was provoked by racial abuse. Digwa's mother Kiran Kaur, an Indian national, was convicted of helping him by removing the murder weapon from the scene.

Protesters gathered outside Southampton Central police station after Thursday's verdict. MP Rupert Lowe called for the kirpan to be banned in public spaces.

The Sikh Federation UK has since issued a statement clarifying the legal position of the kirpan. "The law only provides fully practising Sikhs with a defence under the law to wear a kirpan for religious reasons. If a kirpan or a bladed item is used aggressively in an act of violence the defence under the law for a kirpan does not apply and it is deemed an offensive weapon."

Chris Philp, the shadow home secretary, said it was "shameful" that police handcuffed Henry "as he lay dying, especially after he told them he had been stabbed".

Hampshire Police have issued a public apology for handcuffing Nowak and referred themselves to the Independent Office for Police Conduct. Digwa is scheduled to be sentenced on Monday and his mother on July 17.

DAILY PLANET

AFP

FIRST MANHATTANHENGE OF 2026: People stand in the middle of 42nd Street in Times Square for the first Manhattanhenge of 2026 in New York City on Thursday. 'Manhattanhenge,' coined by astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson, is a phenomenon where the sun perfectly aligns with Manhattan's street grid, allowing it to be seen directly between the city's skyscrapers. A fuller version of the setting sun is expected to be seen on Friday (US time). The phenomenon then repeats on July 11 and 12. Manhattanhenge happens about three weeks before and after the summer solstice

Sue Tilley's painting by Lucian Freud could fetch her $47m

Sue Tilley was working in an unemployment office in the UK when she met the artist Lucian Freud. The paintings he made of her in the 1990s are now among the most famous in modern art — and the most valuable. "Sleeping by the Lion Carpet," regarded as one of Freud's masterpieces, is going up for sale at Sotheby's on June 24, with a pre-sale estimate of £25 million to £35 million. Tilley hasn't seen any of the millions that the portraits have fetched at auction. "It did change my life," Tilley said as she sat in front of her image in the auction house showroom. "Who would have thought I'd be in Sotheby's?" "Sleeping by the Lion Carpet," painted in 1996, is the last of Freud's four monumental portraits of Tilley reclining, resting or dozing. An earlier painting, "Benefits Supervisor Sleeping," sold at auction in 2008 for $33.6 million, at the time a record for a living artist.

Croatia enables alcohol ban to tackle drunk tourists

Croatian lawmakers on Friday approved a law enabling local govts to restrict night-time alcohol sales hours in shops, aimed at curbing heavy tourist drinking that causes public disorder in popular destinations. The measure does not apply to bars or restaurants. In recent years, local media have been flooded with posts of heavily drunk tourists urinating in public, making noise and disrupting residents' lives.

A note of discord: US divided on proposed Trump $250 bill

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: America, a republic founded in rebellion against monarchy and once faintly embarrassed about personality cults, is now contemplating commemorating its 250th birthday by placing Donald Trump's face on a brand-new $250 bill – a denomination so oddly specific it sounds less like legal tender and more like the minimum spend requirement at a casino.

The proposal, once dismissed as internet satire, lurched into reality this week when treasury secretary Scott Bessent confirmed that the administration has already prepared designs for the bill "in case Congress approves it." Critics who had assumed the story was a parody had to check if the Treasury Department had opened a spoof division.

"We've created the bill," Bessent smirked at a White House briefing on Thursday, before insisting that treasury was merely "preparing" and that Congress would ultimately decide whether the US should begin circulating a note bearing the likeness of a living president.

The proposed "Donald J. Trump $250 Bill Act" by South Carolina lawmaker Joe Wilson would carve out an exception to a federal law dating back to 1866 that bars living people from appearing on US currency. According to leaked memos, the design — by British "royal portrait artist" Iain Alexander — features Trump's trademark campaign trail glower, flanked by the colours of the American flag and his own ECG-like sharpie signature.

AP

US treasury secy Scott Bessent shows a proposed $250 bill featuring President Donald Trump

While the bill is expected to glide through the Republican-controlled House, it is likely to face hurdles in the Senate, where the GOP's 53 seats fall short of the 60 votes needed to break a Democratic filibuster.

Trump critics immediately seized on the proposal as the most Trumpian thing ever proposed, a personalised birthday party for America in which the guest of honor is also the cake, fireworks, marching band and commemorative merchandise. Within hours, memes began depicting the bill being accepted only at Mar-a-Lago check-ins, cryptocurrency conferences, and civil fraud settlements.

The denomination itself has baffled economists and currency experts. America once printed $500, $1,000 and even $10,000 bills for interbank transfers before electronic systems rendered them obsolete. But $250 occupies a strange psychological territory — too large for ordinary transactions, too small for oligarchs, and suspiciously close to the average cost of brunch in a tony Georgetown restaurant.

The proposal though fits neatly into the increasingly surreal preparations for "USA250," the nationwide celebration of America's semi quincentennial next year. If you walk down the National Mall, you won't see tranquil tourists reflecting on the fragile experiment of democracy. Instead, cranes are actively assembling a massive steel cage on the South Lawn of the White House for "UFC Freedom 250," the mixed-martial-arts extravaganza scheduled for June 14 — which happens to be Flag Day, and, totally coincidentally, Trump's 80th birthday. Nearby, the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool is currently drained, crawling with bulldozers trying to scrape away decades of green sludge before the MAGA party begins.

The official USA250 stage concerts though have run into a brick wall of progressive Hollywood solidarity, with the entertainment community mostly boycotting the official Washington festivities. Instead, a thin slate of washed-up entertainers will entertain the mostly MAGA crowd that is expected to descend on the capital. Clearly, as July 4 nears, the US stands divided: one half preparing to celebrate 250 years of a constitutional republic, and the other half trying to figure out how to change a $250 bill.